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The Echo Haliburton County

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Christmas Lesson

By Janet Trull

No matter who is living at 24 Sussex Drive or the White House, Christmas happens. Politics, social change, war, extreme weather, even the Grinch… nothing cancels Christmas. Even though the religious landscape has shifted since I was a kid, you can pretty much count on full church pews on Christmas Eve, young and old singing carols and lighting candles for hope. People like traditions, especially this time of year. I remember once a school principal telling me: parents can tolerate a lot of changes in the curriculum or the bus schedule, but don't ever mess with the Christmas concert.

Christmas falls in the darkest week of the year. Resilience burns brightest here. The brightest candle, the brightest star, the brightest memory from childhood when families made a little magic for each other. But the Christmas memories that most of us cherish are not about the special toy we received or the stocking bursting with treats. They are the things we witnessed. Maybe the kind way a cousin attended to an ailing uncle, filling his mug with grog and listening to those old war stories. Maybe you saw a family donating to the food bank, knowing they had to do without some extras themselves.

One Christmas, I witnessed a small gesture of kindness by my father. I'm sure he would be surprised to know how clearly I remember it. As a teenager, I worked in the toy department of Dad's hardware store after school and on weekends. Toyland was always busy in the months leading up to Christmas. Before credit cards, we had a layaway plan so you could select the gifts you wanted and pay a little bit every week. In our small town of farmers and factory workers, people were good with a dollar. They arrived with their lists of Tonka toys and Barbie dolls, Mechano sets and Lincoln logs. Most of them were ever so conscientious about coming in on payday with a few dollars until their purchases were paid in full.

But there were a few people who, despite the best of intentions, missed some payments. Still, somehow, they scraped together the extra dollars and, by Dec. 24, only a few boxes remained. We breathed sighs of relief every time a layaway order was picked up. Three remained, then two, then only one box full of toys.

As shoppers dwindled, a light snow began to fall in the darkening afternoon. The staff met and passed around a box of chocolates and glasses of sherry. It was time to lock up and head home. I was ready to go, anticipating the candlelight service at the church and a party at the neighbour's house. Too bad for the Robinson kids, their dad didn't come to pick up their gifts. I peeked inside the box and saw a robot, a Mouse Trap game, a stuffed Teddy bear. Silly Putty. A yoyo. A Dinky car.

We all knew the Robinsons. They lived above the fish and chips shop. Their mom had some condition and didn't ever leave the apartment. The kids were in the Opportunity class at school. No doubt Bill Robinson was enjoying some Christmas cheer down at The Vic, a rundown old hotel that, within a month would be burned to the ground.

Dad emptied the cash register, put the money in the safe, locked up the store and winked at me. "One stop on the way home," he said, grabbing the box of toys.

The fish and chips shop had windows that were steamed up. A big vent in the side of the building blew the greasy smell of fries into the alley. Inside, a tired looking woman was wiping the counter with vinegar and water.

"Merry Christmas, Delores," he said to her. My dad knew everybody in town. "Can you do me a favour and make sure that Santa pays a visit to the Robinson kids?"

Delores nodded. "Put the box on the back table, Bob," she said. "I'll see that it gets upstairs."

I was amazed at my father's generosity. I saw the bill. Over $80 worth of toys and only $8 had been put down on the order. I told him I thought that was a lot of money wasted. He set me straight pretty quick.

He told me that just about everyone in the community helps the Robinson kids out. Delores makes sure they never go to bed hungry, and Jimmy Hall, the landlord, he doesn't worry too much when the rent doesn't get paid on time. Andy Wilkinson, the skate sharpener, pays for their hockey.

Of course, now I realize that's the way a lot of charity happens in small towns. My dad was just one of countless people who saw a need and filled it without any expectation of thanks or income tax receipts. Their names never appeared on a donor wall.

Merry Christmas, everyone. Especially to the many generous people in this community who see opportunities to lighten the burden of others, offering help as they are able. Some young person will notice, and the lesson of giving will be passed on to the next generation.

Wrap It Up to feature student art

A flurry of activity is happening in the studios of Fleming College. Students are busy preparing for Wrap it Up, the end of semester art exhibition hosted by current students in full-time diploma and certificate programs at the Haliburton School of Art and Design. This one-day show will take place on Dec. 17 between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m.

Wrap it Up provides an opportunity for emerging artists to gain exhibition experience and showcase their many talents. The student-based initiative will feature a variety of media from fall semester students including painting and drawing, artist blacksmithing, fibres, ceramics and Moving Image Design. Artists will be available to discuss their works and answer questions. Select works will be available for purchase. The exhibition is free of charge and open to all. Join inspiring students for light refreshments as well as the opportunity to explore the unique and stimulating space that is the Haliburton School of Art and Design.

Submitted by Erin Lynch

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Grade 1 thoughts on Christmas (from the students at ASES)

How do Santa's reindeer fly?

Santa has a thing that he says, "Dash away all!" and that makes the reindeer fly. *Mya Casey*

Santa has a little Christmas star on the front of his sleigh and that's how the reindeer fly. *Matthew Fairey*

Santa watches people and Christmas spirit makes the reindeer fly. *Brayden Alton*

The magic Christmas star has the magic to make the reindeer fly. It's in the front of the sleigh. *Billy Bradley*

How does Santa Claus get into your home?

Santa turns into magic and goes down through the chimney. He delivers presents and turns back into magic to go back up. *Myla Ecclestone*

Santa has some magic and when he puts the magic on, it makes him short so he can go down through the chimney. *Kate Walker*

What do you think Santa Claus wants for Christmas?

Santa wants something to drink. Maybe milk or Coca-Cola. *Kaylee Byrnes*

Santa wants a gingerbread man and whiskey. *Jayla Marchand*

Santa wants more chocolate chip cookies and milk. *Carson Brosseau*

What is Santa's favourite food?

Santa must like cookies because every Christmas we put cookies out for him. *Jack Tomlinson*

Santa's favourite food is cookies because every Christmas I put cookies out and in the morning they're all gone. *Ayden Gardiner*

Where would Santa Claus like to go on vacation?

Santa should go to Florida because it's sunny and he gets to swim in the water. *Mackenzie Milburn*

Santa should go to the ocean because it's really sunny there. *Jadyn Hamilton*

I think he should go to Nova Scotia because he would get to find shells. *Kaylee Smith*

How do you get to Santa's Workshop?

Santa's house is 10 km from Minden. You get there by a plane. The pilot can buy a map. *Leighton Nesbitt*

You can dogsled to Santa's workshop because if you're dogsledding you don't have to use up gas, plus it's not electrical. If you bring your stuff, you can put it in the chair up at the front. You can stop and eat if you're hungry. You need to get a map of the North Pole. *Zachary Prentice*

You can take a sled like Santa's. You can make one and put magic in it. You can get magic from the fairies in a bear cave. *Henry Thompson*

You get in an airplane and look for Santa's house. If you see Santa's sled, that's where you should go. *Marshall Voicey*

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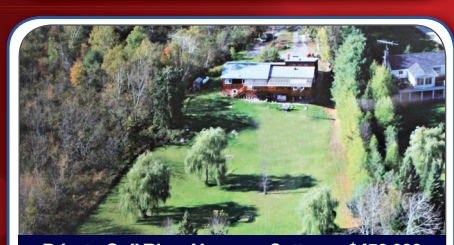

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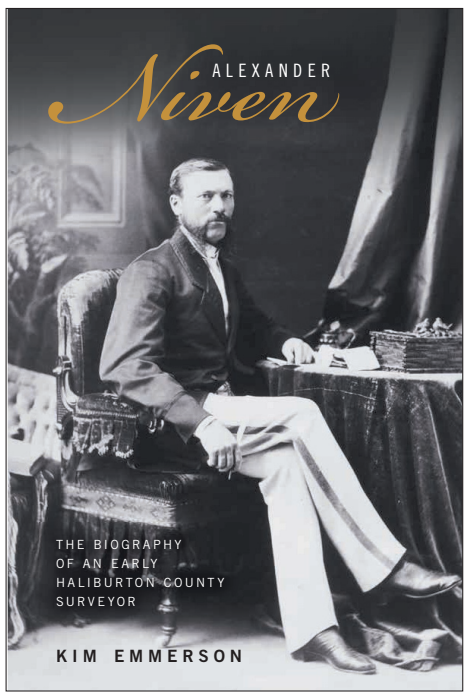

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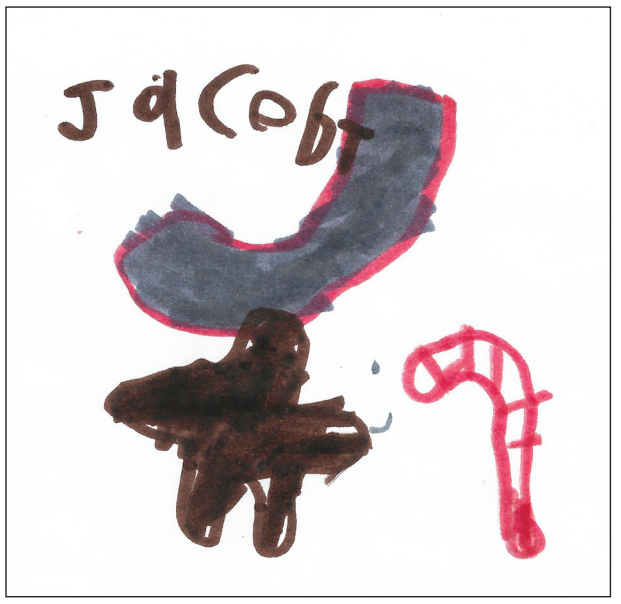
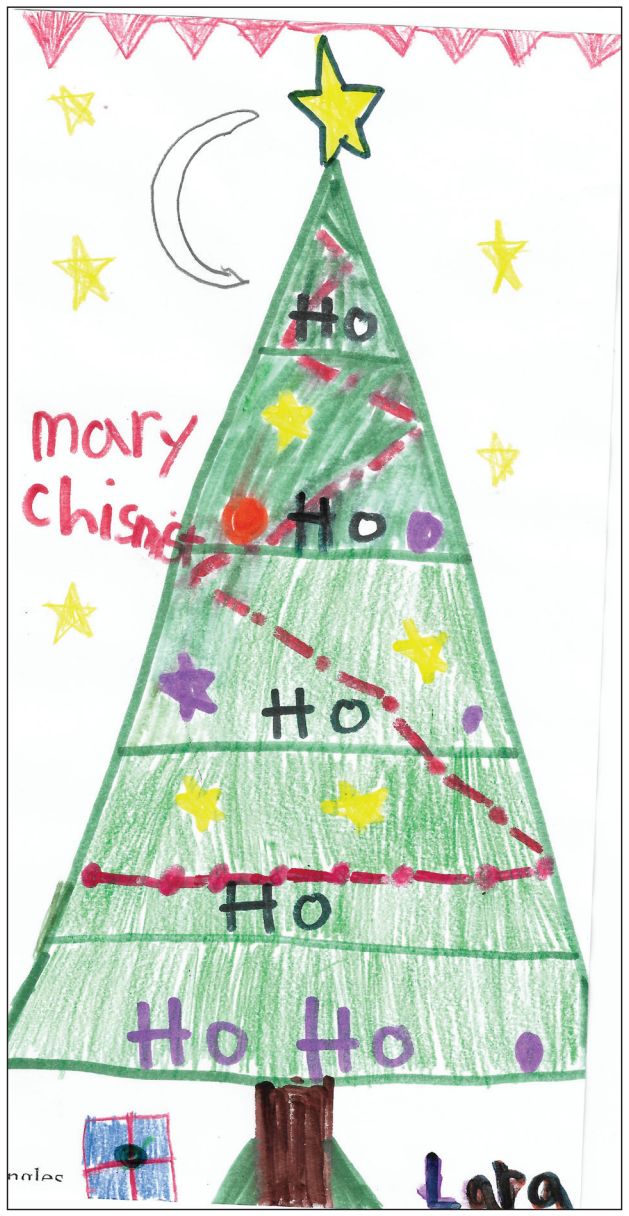
Stuart Baker Elementary School students draw Christmas scenes





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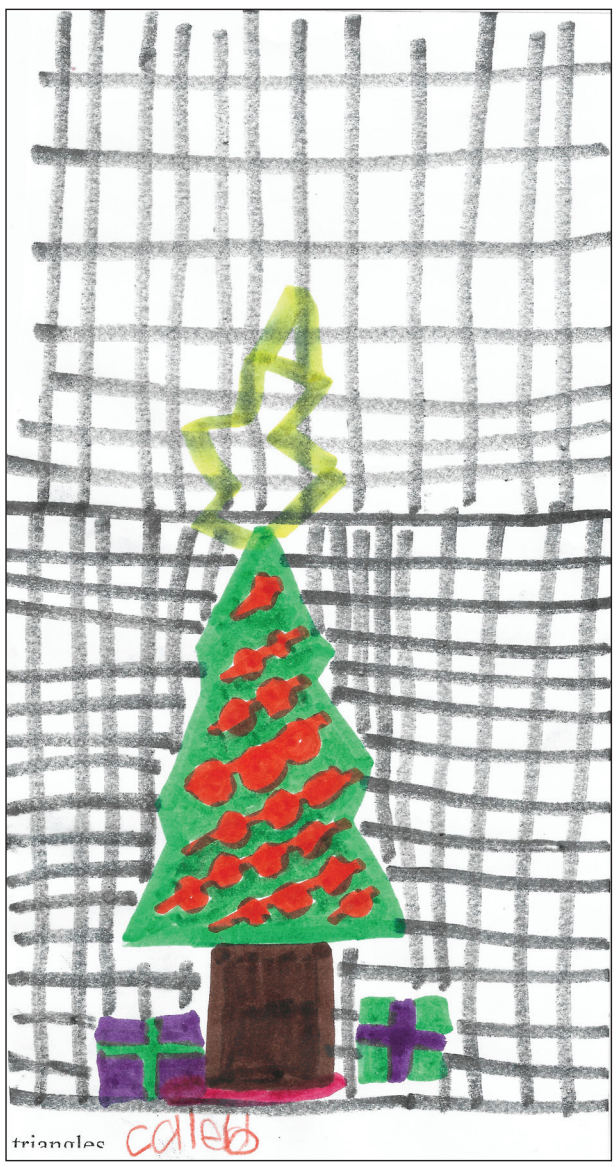

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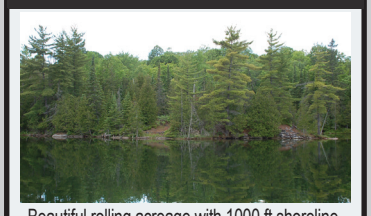

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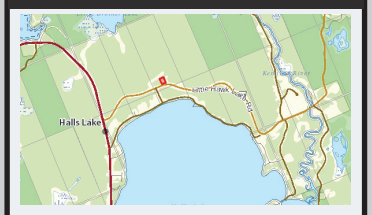

1.67 ac lot. Level, fully treed. Yr rnd rd, roughed in driveway. Walk to the public access on Halls Lake, & not far from a Park. Tube down the river for summer fun--the entry point is nearby.

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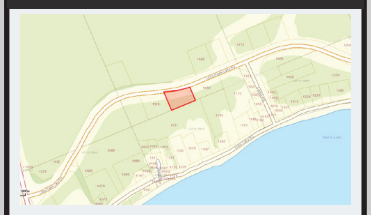

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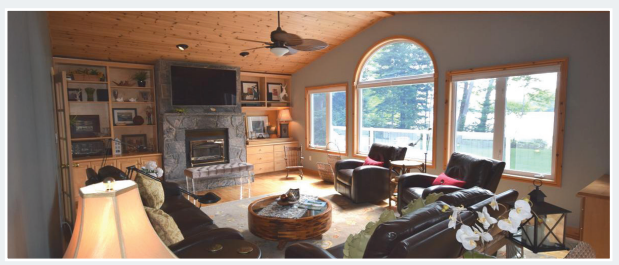

Art by SBES students

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Best wishes for a happy and healthy holiday season from the staff of the Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit.

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Art by SBES students

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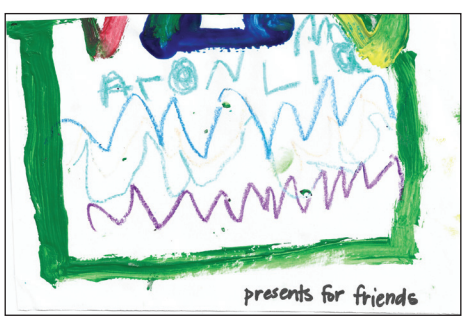
THE ECHO HALIBURTON COUNTY | The Times MINDEN ONTARIO

Christmas stories by students from SBES

Drawings by the Little/ Hewitt class



Rudolph was born in the North Pole. In the North Pole there is also Santa and elves and Mrs. Claus and reindeer. It was Christmas and it was a very snowy night, so Santa came to say ho ho ho, Rudolph with your nose so bright won't you guide my sleigh tonight. Then all the reindeer loved Rudolph. Rudolph is going to help Santa by pulling the sleigh. So Santa gets on his sleigh to give all the children in Haliburton gifts. But then the Grinch appeared from the bottom of the sleigh and the Grinch stole Santa's sleigh. But the Grinch didn't steal the reindeer so Santa was able to ride the reindeer home to the North Pole and Mrs. Claus was there. It turns out that the Grinch was a good person and he delivered the gifts to the children in Haliburton. Merry Christmas!

Sophia – Grade 2

***

Once upon a time there was a reindeer born, named Rudolph. He had a red nose. The other reindeer called him names. He did not like it. He ran away from the other reindeers. He ran into a snowstorm and he could not see because it was windy and snowy. Rudolph sat down to have a rest. When he woke up the storm was over. He saw a elf in front of him. He was surprised. The elf went with him to try to get far away from the other reindeer. They saw a snow monster. They were very scared. They went behind an ice mountain where they were safe. They saw a man on a sled with dogs pulling. They asked the man to take them took to Santa. When they got there Santa needed Rudolph to guide his sleigh because it was a dark Christmas night. Rudolph pulled Santa all over the earth to deliver his presents to kids. The elves made special toys for the dogs because they wanted them to be happy because they helped Rudolph get to Santa in their dogsled.

Anna

Reindeer

Once upon a time there was a reindeer named Rudolph and he had a red nose. The other reindeer laughed at Rudolph because he had a red nose. Rudolph wanted a nose like the other reindeer. So he asked Santa but Santa said I can't. So then Rudolph walked and walked and walked. Then there was a big snowstorm. Rudolph had to find shelter so he wouldn't get cold. He found shelter but the Abominable snowman was in the cave. This Abominable snowman was Rudolph's friend and he told Rudolph to go back to Santa. Rudolph did not want to go because the other reindeers laughed at him because his red nose glows. The Abominable snowman told Rudolph that maybe Santa wants him to lead the sleigh because he has a glowing nose. The Abominable snowman took Rudolph to Santa. Santa said, "Rudolph I want you to guide my sleigh." Rudolph was excited and they went on the sleigh and they took the presents to the kids in all the houses where kids were waiting for Christmas.

Deagan Davison

Dear Santa Claus, My wish list

Shopkins for me.
A Hatchimal for Julia.
A dog toy for Toby
A baby toy for Max
Slippers for mom
A hammer for Logan
A mouse toy for Buddy and Charlie
A movie for Pa and Ma
Thank You

Anna

Dear Santa Claus, What my family wants for Christmas

Puppy
Dad wants a bow
My grandma wants a candle
I want candy in my stocking
Kitten
Grandpa wants new clothes
I want little toys in my stocking
Thank You

Deagan

Continued on pg 12

Believe in the Magic of Giving!

Making Moments Matter
Haliburton Highlands Palliative Centre

As of **December 7, 2016**
The Believe In the Magic of Giving campaign has raised **$47,500** for the new Haliburton Highlands Palliative Centre!

Thank you to the following generous businesses, groups and individuals:

Jean K. Latvala
Helen L. & Edward McKirdy
Peggy M. Anderson
Shirley Yellen
Bert & Alba Vanderwyst
Raymond Dunmore
Barry & Barbara Edwards
Robert & Beverley Watson
H.E. & Joyce Shore
William & Margaret Jeske
Raymond Brown
Marilyn Watson
Shirley & Terry Davis
Isabelle Porath
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Anonymous
Irv & Deb Sternberg
Dennis & Johanne Brannan
Robert E. Beam
Jean Campbell
Bob Heyes
Gary & Judy Chapman
Mark & Hanna Kassirer
William E. Lardner
Dolly Ketola
George Sihvonen
William Fisher & Aoffien May
Sandy Hopkins
Grant & June Hunter
Ed & Lynn Youngdale

The following donors wished to make their donation to honour and celebrate the life of someone special.

Donors	*Special Person*
Daryl Poirier	Sharon Poirier
Sadie Lavender	Doug Lavender
Donna Acton	Richard Elstone
Susan Winter	Anne Winter
Bruce & Doreen Trinkwon	Sharon Barker
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Arthur & Anne Dawson	Cliff & Betty Dawson
Mike & Loraine Scheffee	Norma Scheffee
Clarkson Montgomery	Bill Cowan
Marion Acton	Donald Acton
Sue Reid	Fred Reid
Rick Woodcock	Peggy Woodcock
Larry & Sherry Stevens	Don Lloyd
June Lenz	Evelyn Johnson
Drew & Elly Carey	Don Lloyd
Judith Mitchell	Dr. & Mrs. Robert Heyes
Pauline Ashcroft	James Ashcroft & Arnold Hunter
Allan & Susan Jewell	Richard & Isabella Hilyer

Special Thanks Moose 93.5 FM & Canoe 100.9 FM Stay tuned for weekly updates.

HALIBURTON HIGHLANDS HEALTH SERVICES FOUNDATION
A Foundation For The Health Of The Highlands
foundation@hhhs.ca

7199 Gelert Road, PO Box 1413
Haliburton, ON K0M 1S0
705-457-1580

6 McPearson St, P.O. Box 30,
Minden, ON K0M 2K0
705-286-1580

Gardens offer Winter Wonderland

Lots of Christmas goodies, along with meat, produce and artisanal wares were available at the farmers' market at Abbey Gardens' winter festival on Dec. 3.

Families take a wagon ride to see Santa during the winter festival at Abbey Gardens on Dec. 3. The event included music and a farmers' market.

Photos by Chad Ingram

Jazzed up Christmas carols by this trio provided a festive backdrop.

Lots of Christmas goodies, along with meat, produce and artisanal wares were available at the farmers' market.

Christmas Season 2016

Solemnity of Christmas

Christmas Eve

Haliburton - Saturday, December 24th - 4:30 p.m.
Bancroft - Saturday, December 24th - 7:30 p.m.

Christmas Day

Bancroft - Sunday, December 25th - 9:00 a.m.

Solemnity of Mary, The Mother of God

New Year's Eve

Haliburton - Saturday, December 31st - 4:30 p.m.

New Year's Day

Bancroft - Sunday, January 1st - 9:00 a.m.

Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord

Haliburton - Saturday, January 7th - 4:30 p.m.
Bancroft - Sunday, January 8th - 9:00 a.m.

A Warm Welcome Awaits!

St. Anthony of Padua Mission
27 Victoria Street
Haliburton

Our Lady of Mercy Church
196 Bridge Street West
Bancroft

Continued from pg 10

Dear Santa Claus, My wish list

a tablet
new hamster with a cage
a remote control helicopter
A bird
A robot
Marvel avenger
A remote control race car
A remote control jet
Thank You

Kenaydl

Dear Santa Claus, My wish list

a new dog toy for Buddah
Fish
Laptop
hockey stick
itunes card
Shoes
Hatchimal
ring
lego
Paint
a nerf gun for William
Thank You

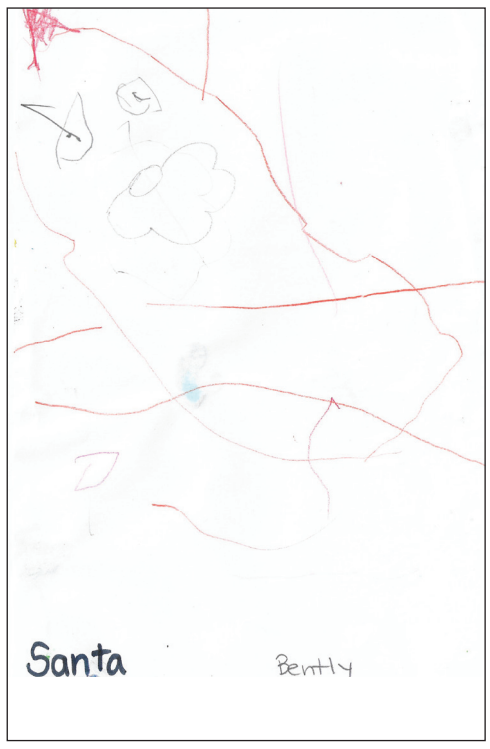
Sophia Burke

Dear Santa Claus, My wish list

Slippers
Lip gloss
a necklace
Puppy
a colouring book
chocolate
A real Bunny
I want my family to get along and be happy
Thank You

Kayla

Drawings by the Little/ Hewitt class



County Classifieds

classifieds@haliburtonpress.com Deadline Friday at 4 pm.

110 LESSONS/CLASSES

Guitar Lessons ***with Chad Ingram*** Beginner to intermediate level. Learn to play your favourite songs. $45/hour. Call 705-286-1323.

WINTER CLASSES FINN ARTISTS' CENTER: 15 Newcastle St. Minden. STARTING: Jan 10, 11, 12: Tuesday/ Wednesday or Thursday: Afternoons; 1:00 to 4:00 or Evenings: 6:00 to 9:00 for 8 consecutive weeks. COST: $275.00. **LOTTERY FOR EARLY REGISTRANTS:** Free 8 week Class Draw DEC. 18 REGISTER: 457-2404/ ***finn@halhinet.on.ca***

360 COMMERCIAL SPACE FOR RENT

SELF CONTAINED STORAGE UNITS for rent discounts available located on Industrial Park Road in Haliburton. Call 705 457-1224.

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260 AUTOMOTIVE FOR SALE

Hercules Avalanche **235 70 /16 winter tires**. Low mileage on steel winter rims to fit 2005 Ford Escape. $250 OBO. 705 754 2379

340 LAND FOR SALE

Private Sale. 1/2 acre building lot. Guilford Court. Hydro and telephone on site. Cash or mortgage by vendor. $20,000.00. Call 705-754-9262

180 HEALTH & WELLNESS

Community nursing foot care clinics Minden, Haliburton and Wilberforce locations. LTC facility residents are welcome. Call Tracey to schedule an appointment 705 745-7987

280 FIREWOOD FOR SALE

Cut/ split & delivered seasoned firewood. $325/bush cord. 90% maple/all hardwood. Dry also available. Call: 705-930-7198

Cut and Split Firewood for indoor and outdoor wood stoves. Delivered to Minden and surrounding areas. Get ahead of the winter!! Slabs for campfire available too. We also cut lumber. Please contact Maryssa at 705-854-0280.

200 FOR SALE

Several Items **FOR SALE!** Small antique and collectable tables. Two glass shelving units. Matching coffee and end tables. Pine antique china cabinet and corner unit. Call 705 286 1198

300 FOR RENT

RENTAL: Florida Tropical Paradise Setting! 2.5 BR 2 Bath On Pine Island, golf side, very private, excellent fishing, bike trails. Eagles Osprey and Peacocks! $900 per week 705-448-1292

FIND IT in the newspaper

360 COMMERCIAL SPACE FOR RENT

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PRIME 1630 sq. ft. in Minden Commercial Business or Office Space Available Feb. 1, 2017. Subway plaza, Hwy 35, Minden **Call (705) 455-2393**

Heritage Recipes

From West Guilford Community Centre recipe book:

Sweet and Sour Meatballs

1 ½ - 2 lbs. hamburger
¾ cup bread crumbs
2 eggs
Parsley
Onion
Garlic

Sauce:
⅓ cup brown sugar
2 cup water
½ cup catsup
1 tbsp. Soya sauce
2 tbsp. Cornstarch to thicken

Prepare meatballs and broil until brown. Prepare sauce, pour over meatballs and bake at 250 degrees for three hours. Optional - Add pineapple chunks.

Norma Sisson

Pumpkin Pie

1 cup pumpkin
¾ cup white sugar
1 cup milk
1 egg
½ tsp. Cinnamon
1 tsp nutmeg (½ in, ½ on top)
¼ tsp. Ginger

Mix all ingredients together and beat well. Bake in unbaked pie shell at 350 degrees about 50 minutes or until fairly solid in centre.

Carol Duncan

From the Maple Lake Church recipe book:

Mincemeat Drop Cookies

¾ cup shortening
1 ¼ cup brown sugar firmly packed
½ tsp. Vanilla
1 tsp. Lemon juice
1 egg
¾ cup mincemeat
2 cup all purpose flour
½ tsp. Salt
½ tsp baking soda
1 tsp. Cinnamon (and pumpkin spice, adds Cathy McIlmurray)
½ cup chopped nuts

Cream together shortening, brown sugar. Blend in vanilla, lemon and egg. Stir in mincemeat. Mix dry mixture flour, salt, soda, cinnamon, with wet mixture. Drop from teaspoon on baking sheet. Bake at 375 degrees for 10 to 12 minutes or until lightly browned. (Cathy's suggestion: bake at 350 for eight to 10 minutes.) Makes 3 dozen.

Mrs. Raymond (Margaret) Cook

From the Favourite Recipes book by The Ladies of St. Anthony's Altar Society; St. Anthony's Catholic Church, Haliburton

Cabbage Rolls

Parboiled cabbage leaves
1 ½ cup diced onions
½ cup oil
1 ½ cup vegetable hamburger meat substitute
1 cup long grain rice
1 tsp. Salt
¼ tsp garlic powder
2 cup sauerkraut
2 tins tomato soup

Saute onions in oil until lightly browned. Combine with hamburger substitute, rice, salt, garlic powder. Place about a tbsp. filling on each cabbage leaf and roll up and tuck in ends. Use half of sauerkraut to cover bottom of casserole dish. Place in a layer of cabbage rolls - more sauerkraut, then rolls. Continue ending with sauerkraut. Dilute tomato soup with one half can of water and pour on top of casserole. Cover and bake at 350 degrees for one hour. Serves 10.

Mrs. Kanters

Christmas pudding

4 oz flour
¼ tsp. Baking powder
6 oz. fine bread crumbs
6 oz. shredded suet
3 eggs
3 oz. brown sugar
1 tbsp. Molasses
1 med-sized grated carrot
1 med-sized grated apple
¼ lb. each currants, seedless raisins or sultanas, chopped large raisins
2 oz. blanched almonds (chopped)
2 oz. chopped candied peel
¼ tsp. Mixed cake spice
¼ tsp. Powdered cinnamon
¼ tsp. Nutmeg
¼ tsp. Salt
Grated rind and juice of small lemon and orange
1 tbsp rum or brandy

Mix the suet, sugar, flour, bread crumbs, spices, salt. Add fruit, chopped almonds, candied peel to the flour mixture. Add grated orange and lemon rinds, grated apple and carrot. Mix well, then add beaten eggs, separately, beating well between each egg. Strain the molasses and rum. Leave to stand for one hour, then stir again, put in greased bowl. Cover with greased paper, then a cloth - leaving a fold on top of cloth to allow pudding rising. Put in pan of boiling water - water should be halfway up the bowl, then lower the heat and boil for four to five hours. Add water to pan as original water boils away. Later when required for eating boil 2 ½ to 3 hrs.

Alice Hammond

Almond Toffee Bars

About 30 graham cracker squares
1 cup butter
1 cup brown sugar, packed
½ cup sliced almonds

Lay graham cracker squares in a single layer to line the bottom of a thoroughly buttered jelly-roll pan. (about 10" x 15", 25 cm x 38cm). Trim to make them fit so they form a nice flat base. In a medium saucepan melt butter over low heat. Add sugar and stir until mixture comes together, about 3 to 4 minutes. (Don't let it get too hot.) Stir in almonds. Pour toffee mixture over graham crackers.

Bake in 375°F oven for 7 to 8 minutes. Do not over bake. Let cool about half an hour, then slice into small fingers. Makes lots.

Sue Nicholson

Coconut Crisps

"This was from my Aunt Evelyn Swinson and my favourite."

1 cup of butter
1 cup brown sugar
2 eggs
1½ rolled oats
1 cup desiccated coconut
Pinch of salt
1½ tsp. baking powder
½ tsp. baking soda
1 cup of flour
Drop on I greased cookie sheet
Bake at 325 for 12-15 minutes

Sylvia Holland

Date Squares

1 ½ c Flour
1 tsp. Baking Soda
1 tsp. Baking Powder
1 tsp. Salt
1 cup Crisco Oil
1 cup of Brown Sugar
1 ½ of Rolled Oats

Mix together and add ½ in bottom of 8x8 pan
¾ pound of dates
½ c Brown Sugar
1 tsp. vanilla
add on top
add remaining crumble
Bake 350 for 30 minutes

Merrie Barry

Best Chocolate Cake Ever

½ c cocoa
1 tsp. baking soda
1 cup boiling water
Set aside

2 Eggs
2 cup sugar
1 cup sour milk
½ cup oil
2 cup flour
2 tsp. baking powder
½ tsp salt
vanilla

Bake at 350 F

Sheila Burke (By Howard Roberts's mother)

Peanut Butter Balls

2 tbsp. butter
½ cup crunchy Peanut Butter
1 ¼ cup icing sugar
Mix thoroughly and roll into small balls and chill
Melt together over water 3 squares semi sweet chocolate 1 tbsp. paraffin wax. Dip the balls in chocolate then roll in peanuts, walnuts or coconut.

Recipe by Lilly Chisholm

Laura Smith

A little advance notice....
Christmas Day Dinner
McKecks
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Artwork by students from SBES

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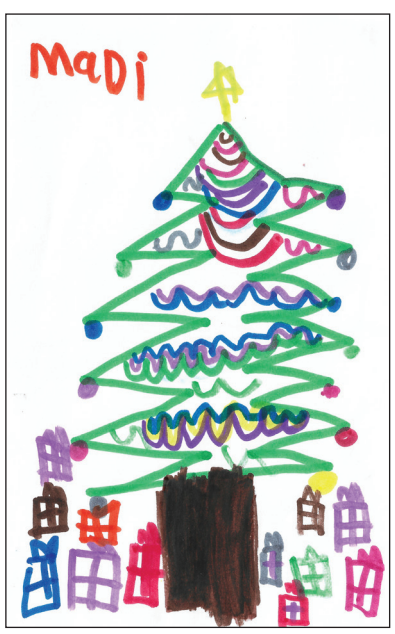
Did you know?

Christmas tree facts

One of the most recognizable symbols of the holiday season, Christmas trees can be seen in private homes, public spaces and many prominent locations beginning each December. Christmas trees come in all shapes and sizes, and families may prefer certain types of trees, including aromas, needle types and fullness.

Christmas trees have a diverse history. The following are some facts about Christmas trees that holiday celebrants may or may not be familiar with.

- Many harvested Christmas trees do not grow in the wild, but are raised on farms. Christmas trees are an agricultural product.
- Roughly one million acres are dedicated to tree farming.
- It can take as many as 15 years for a tree to grow to the typical height required of a Christmas tree.
- Every state in the United States grows Christmas trees.
- Germans are credited with bringing the first Christmas trees into the home and decorating them in the spirit of Christmas. The first recorded reference to the Christmas tree dates back to the 16th century.
- Tree farms are beneficial to the environment because they reduce the amount of carbon dioxide in the air and help counter global warming.
- The most common Christmas tree species are balsam fir, Douglas-fir, Fraser fir, noble fir, Scotch pine, Virginia pine and white pine.
- Christmas trees can be recycled into mulch.



Artwork by students from SBES

UPCOMING

Community Events

PARISH
HOME INSPECTIONS

Want to get your event in Community Calendar? It's free! Contact Pat at classifieds@haliburtonpress.com.

Dated Events

Dorset Recreation Centre: Christmas Cookie Dough Party

When: Thursday, December 15, 2:00 - 4:00
A get together to make refrigerator cookie dough for taking home to bake.
All Welcome, Space is limited. First come first serve.
All materials supplied. Cost $25.00 per person due in advance to secure your spot.

"Christmas Favourites" directed by Melissa Stephens

When: Sunday, December 18, 11:15 am
Where: Haliburton United Church, 10 George St. at Pine St.
Advent anthems, readings and carol singing with the Haliburton United Church Choir.

The Community Carol Service

When:Sunday December 18th, at 7:00 pm.
Where: Historic Essonville Church
Come early to get your seat!

Christmas Eve Service and Communion Celebration

Guest singers Kate Campbell, John Miller and Deniella Rivard
Haliburton United Church
When: Saturday, December 24, 7:00 pm

Lochlin United Church, Christmas Day Service

When: Sunday December 25, 10:30 am
Where: 1050 Lochlin Road off Gelert Road (County Road 1)

HALIBURTON: Sexual Health Clinic

When: Wednesday, December 28, 10:30 am to Noon.
The clinic provides clients with confidential access to cervical screening, low-cost birth control, pregnancy testing and sexual health teaching. Testing and treatment of sexually transmitted infections are also provided. For more information, locations or to make an appointment, call the Health Unit at 1-866-888-4577, ext. 2205.

Ingoldsby United Church, New Years Day Service

When: Sunday January 1, 10:30 am
Where: 1741 Ingoldsby Road off kashagawigamog Lake Road (County Road 18)

Haliburton Arena - Celebrating 150 Years

When: Saturday, January 7th, 2017, 4:00 - 8:00 pm
Local Food, Beer Tent, Outdoor Games, Fire and Light Show and Much More!
Trivia night at the Curling Club from 8-10 pm
For More information, visit our website: www.dysartetal.ca

Razzamataz Kids Shows

When: Sunday January 15, 2017, 2:00pm
Where: Northern Lights Performing Arts Pavilion
Professor Wick's Incredible Magic Factory by Majinx, ON

Legion Events

Branch 624, Wilberforce

Jan Simon PRO December 16th– December22nd

Friday Pool 1:30pm
Spaghetti Dinner 5-7pm
Jam Session 7:30pm
Saturday Meat Draw 2pm Early Bird 3pm Sharp
Monday Bid Euchre 7:00pm come out and learn – beginners welcome
Wednesday Fun Darts 7:30pm

Upcoming Events
Saturday, December 31st – New Year's Eve Party 9:00pm to close $20/person includes light lunch at approx. 11pm
DJ Pat Casselman – door prize and spot dances
Sunday, January 1st – President's Levee – Open House – 1:00pm-5:00pm

Branch 129, Haliburton

Dave Allen, PRO 705-457-2571
Mondays: Bridge every Monday at 1pm
Tuesdays: Tuesday Night Dart League starting at 7pm
Wednesdays: Bid Euchre 1 pm start
Bingo Doors open at 6 pm, Bingo starts at 7 pm - $500 Jackpot **$1000 Jackpot** - last Wednesday of the month
Thursdays: General Meeting Second Thursday of the month starting at 7:30 pm All members urged to attend Ladies Auxiliary Last Thursday of the month at 1 pm
Fridays: Cribbage 1pm start
Meat Draw Five Draws, Five Prizes each draw, First draw at 4:30 pm, Last draw at 6:30 pm, Tickets are $2 per draw…Chester Howse, MC
***Christmas Meat Draw Friday December 16th**
Darts Friday fun darts - 4:30pm onwards
Saturdays: 50/50 Draw 4 pm draw, Tickets are $1 each from noon onwards
Sundays: Breakfast Second and fourth Sunday of the month 9:30 am – 1 pm $6 per person. Occasional volunteers are needed.

Upcoming Events:
Whether you're planning a function for 10 or 200, for more information call the Legion today at (705) 457- 2571, email rcl129@bellnet.ca or visit haliburtonlegion.com. Come out and support Haliburton Legion Branch 129...everyone is welcome!

Branch 636, Minden 705-286-4541

Ladies Darts, Wednesday, 1-4 p.m.
Bid Euchre, Tuesday, 1 p.m.
Euchre, Thursday, 7 p.m.
Fish/Wings & Chips, Friday, 12-2 p.m. and 5-7 p.m.
Mixed darts, Friday 7:30 p.m.
Big euchre, first Sunday of the month (except holidays), noon, $12
Sports Fan Day, Sunday, 12-4 p.m.
Lunch menu, Monday – Friday, 12-2 p.m.
Liver lover's special, Tuesday 12-2 p.m. (full menu also)
Meat Draw, Wednesday lunch time.
Upcoming Events:
Please listen to local radio regarding our special Saturday events.

Branch 441 Kinmount

PRO Raquel Linton 705-488-3191

Mondays: Seniors cards, pot luck lunch 1230 followed by Bid Euchre
Family Fun Bingo 630pm Children & Adult fun and All welcome!
Wednesday: Summer Drop In Darts
Fridays: Bingo 6:45 all welcome $300 Must Go Jackpot
Saturdays: 5pm Meat Draw

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Artwork and stories by students in Ms. Randles's class

Name: Sophie Graham
Christmas
Snowflake on Dec. 1, 2016
Dear Santa,
How are you? My name is Sophie. I like Christmas and loom bands. My favourite food is chocolate. My favourite animal is dogs and Cats. I have a dog. One thing I wish for taya is a little live pet bird cage. How cold is it in the north Pole? How is Snowflake? How is Rudolph?
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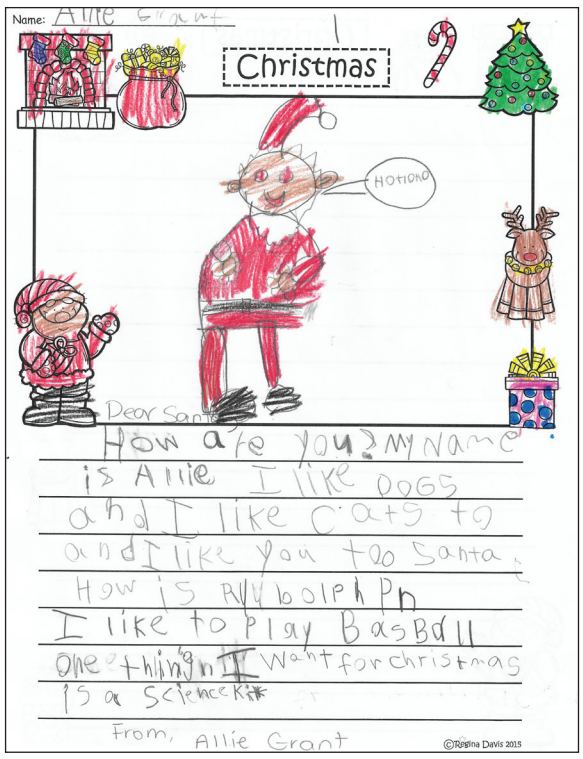
Name: Allie Grant
Christmas
HOHOHO
Dear San
How are you? My name is Allie I like dogs and I like Cats to and I like you too Santa. How is Rudolph I like to play Basball One thing I want for christmas is a Science Kit
From, Allie Grant
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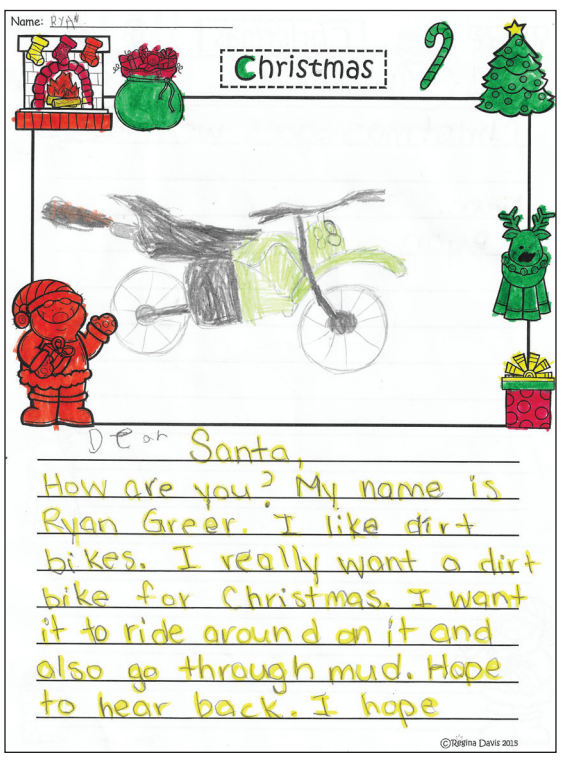
Name: Ryan
Christmas
Dear Santa,
How are you? My name is Ryan Greer. I like dirt bikes. I really want a dirt bike for Christmas. I want it to ride around on it and also go through mud. Hope to hear back. I hope
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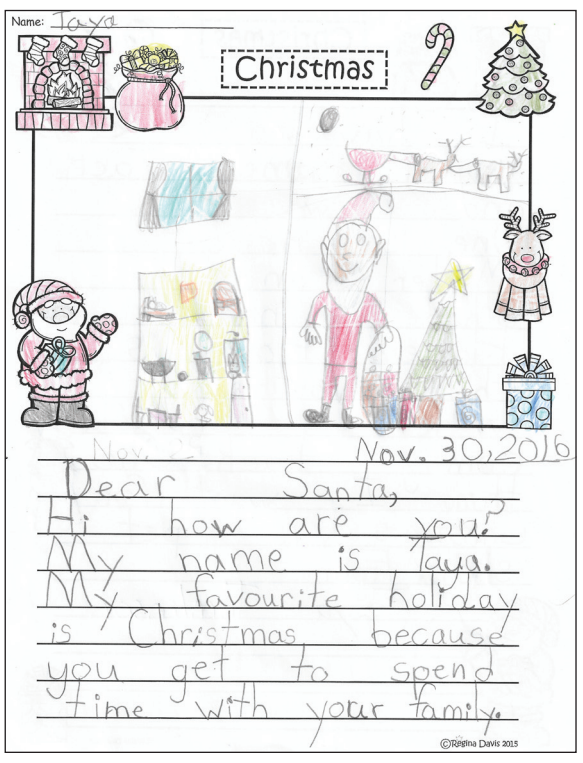
Name: Taya
Christmas
Nov. 30, 2016
Dear Santa,
Hi how are you?
My name is Taya.
My favourite holiday is Christmas because you get to spend time with your family.
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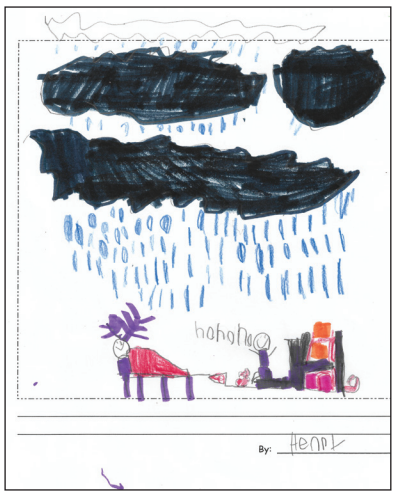
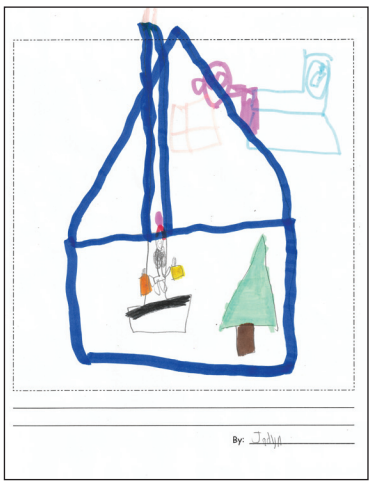
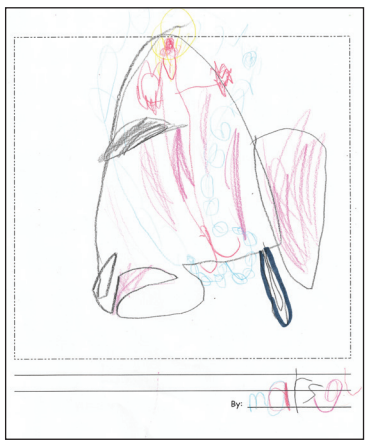
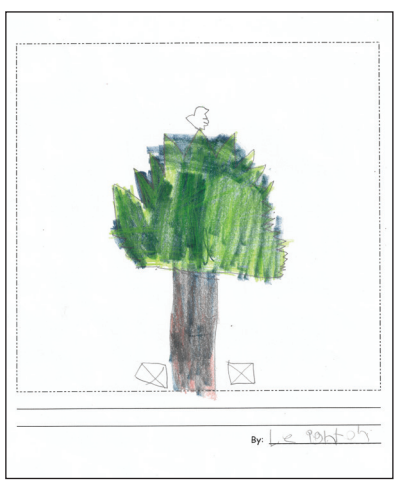
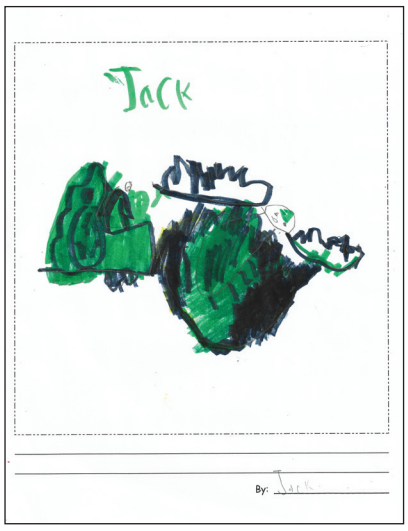
Artwork by Ms. Patterson's Class at Archie Stouffer Elementary School











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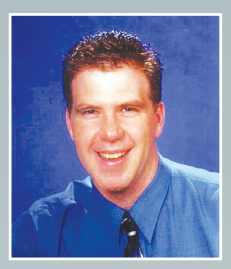

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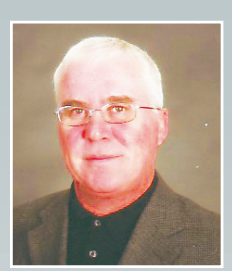

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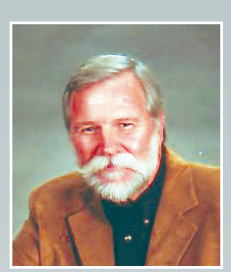

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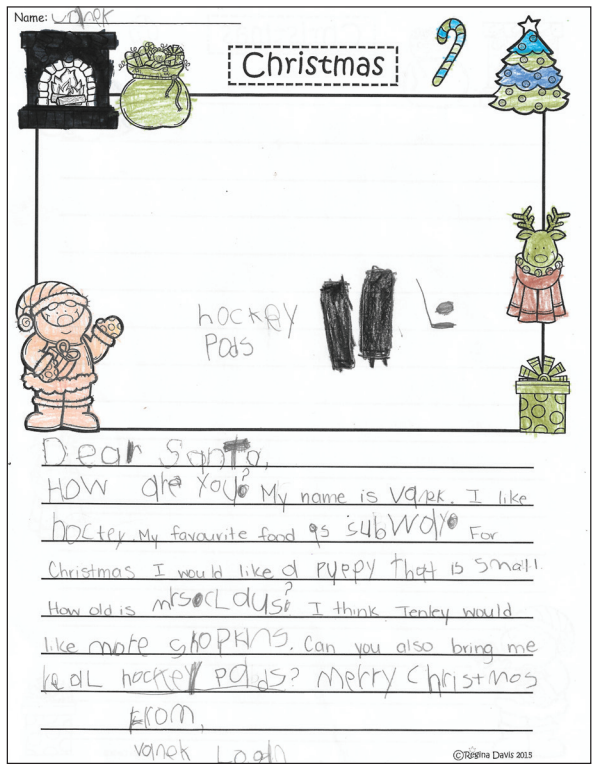
Artwork and stories by students in Ms. Randles's class


Name:
Christmas
hockey pads
Dear Santa,
How are you? My name is Vanek. I like hockey. My favourite food is subway. For Christmas I would like a puppy that is small. How old is mrs. Claus? I think Tenley would like more shopkins. Can you also bring me real hockey pads? Merry Christmas
from,
Vanek Logan
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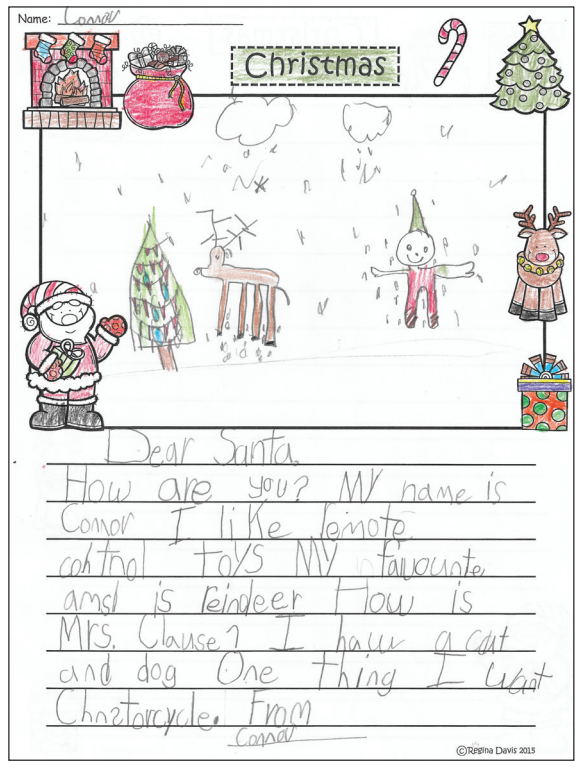
Name:
Christmas
Dear Santa,
How are you? My name is Connor. I like remote control toys. My favourite animal is reindeer. How is Mrs. Clause? I have a cat and dog. One thing I want for Christmas is a motorcycle. From
Connor
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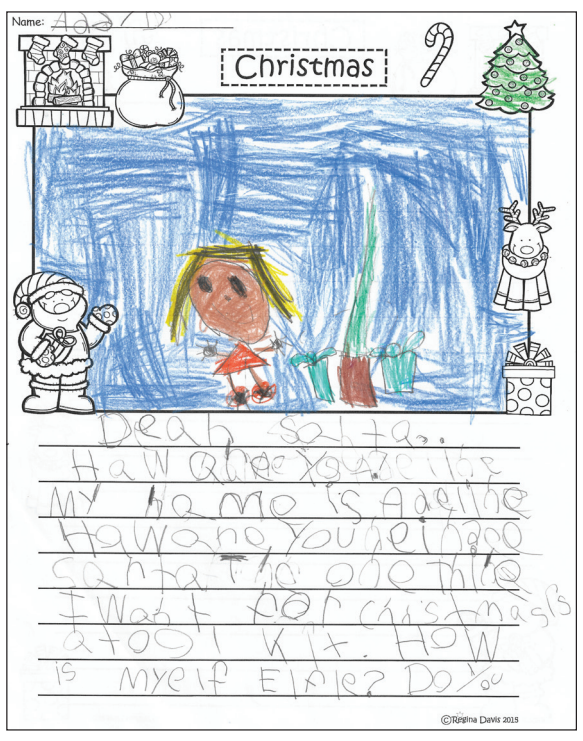
Name:
Christmas
Dear Santa,
How are you? My name is Adeline. How old are you? I like Santa. For Christmas I want a doll. How is your reindeer? I think Santa. One thing I want for Christmas is a toy. From
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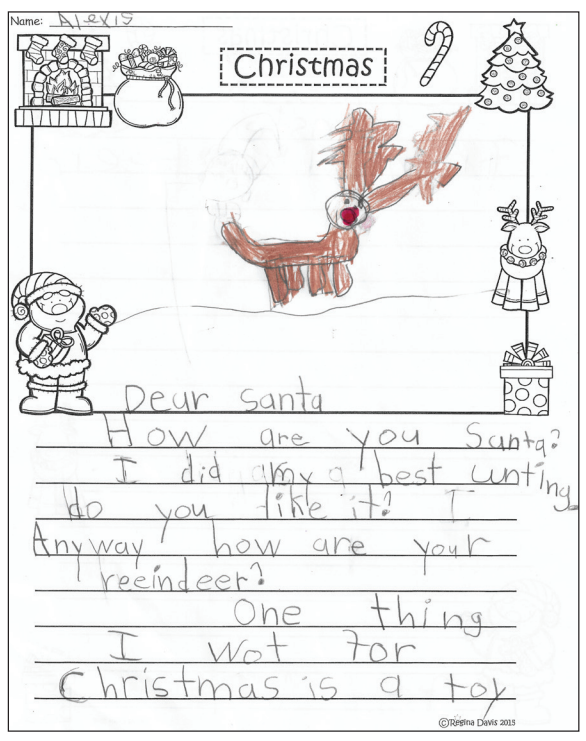

Season's Greetings from SIRCH Community Services.

We would like to thank everyone for the support we've received to help make lives easier in Haliburton County. It goes a long way to making our community such a special and kind place to work and live. Best wishes for joy and prosperity throughout 2017.

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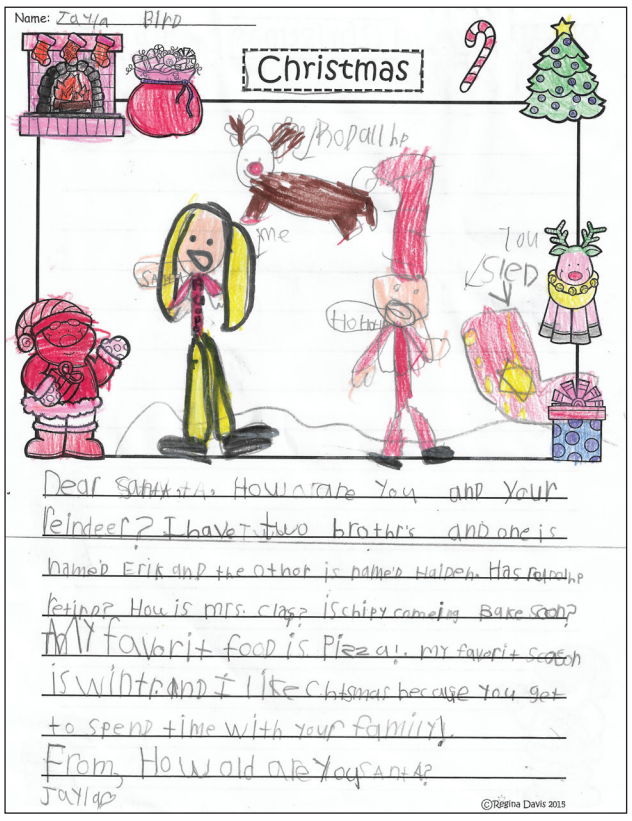
Artwork and stories by students in Ms. Randles's class


Name: Zayla Bird
Christmas
Dear Santa, How are You and your Reindeer? I have two brother's and one is named Erik and the other is named Halden. Has Rudolph retired? How is mrs. claus? Is chimney coming Bake Soon? My favorit food is Pizza. my favorit season is winter and I like Christmas because you get to spend time with your family!
From, Howald are Yoy SANTA
Jayla
©Regina Davis 2015

Name: Taylor
Christmas
Dear Santa, Novyou 2016
How are you? My name is Taylor. I like playing. my favourite food is grapes my favourite reindeer is Rudolph. How is miss claus? I have one brother and one sister.
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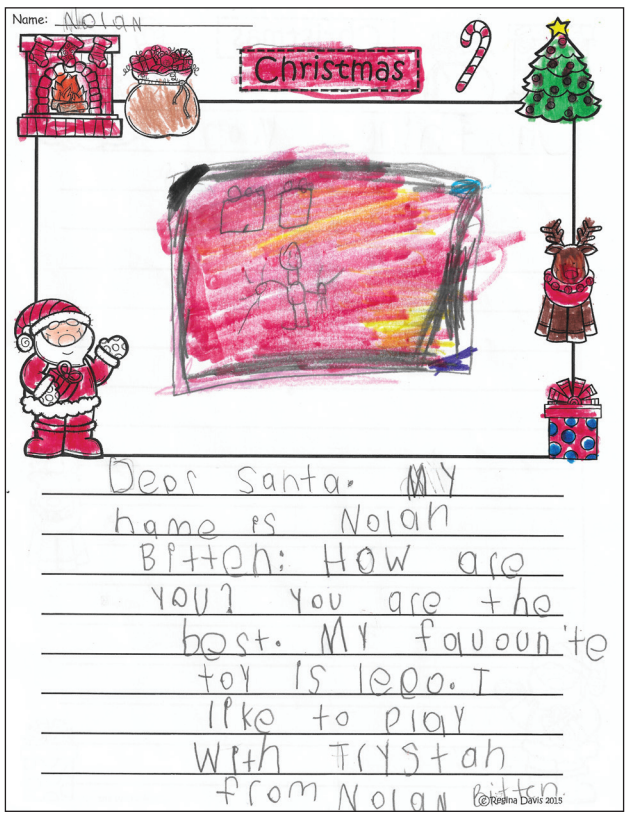
Name: Nolan
Christmas
Dear Santa. My name is Nolan Bitten: How are you? You are the best. My favourite toy is lego. I like to play With Trystah from Nolan Bitten
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Raymond Selbie & Staff

Artwork by students from SBES

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At The Holiday Season
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Scenes of Christmas, Grade 3B, Mrs. Marks-O'Sullivan

Santa

Santa is nice and kind. He is coming down my chimney. There is a sack of toys and candy. There is a lot of candy falling down the chimney because there is a hole in Santa's sack. The cat ran from the chimney because he had seen Santa Claus. My cat ran and ran. He hid in the cupboard and he didn't want to come out because he was scared of Santa. I'm not scared of Santa because he gives me presents.

By Jenna Pletch 3B

My Christmas Ornament

Glitter! Glitter! I put my lovely ornament on my beautiful tree. It is as smooth as a comfy cushion and is very delicate. If my ornament drops it will break because it is made out of glass. My ornament is as bright as the super moon. It has dark red spikes that are kind of like icicles. The size is very big. It is as big as a whole orange. That is my ornament.

By Austin Latanville 3B

Christmas Tree

One night I got home from hockey practice. I saw a big thing right in the living room. It was beautiful and the colour of the tree is green. The tree was enormous and round with ornaments all over it. There are lights all around the tree and on the top of the tree there is a big star. The colour of the star is all the colours in the rainbow. The tree smells like pine and there are a lot of pine needles on the floor. Whoo! Hoo! I can hardly wait until Santa puts presents under the tree. Merry Christmas.

By Jace Mills 3B

Stocking at Christmas

Christmas is coming soon. I am so excited to hang my lovely stocking. My stocking is pink and purple with Santa on it. My stocking is soft and it is brightly coloured. I can hang my stocking up in my house on my Christmas tree or in my bedroom. In my stocking I want jolly ranchers, a toothbrush, toothpaste and some other candy. I can't wait to get presents in my stocking.

Lundyn Hutchinson 3B

Gingerbread House

The sweet smell of the gingerbread house fills my nose. Yummy! It goes through my house and back to me. My mom is getting the stuff for the gingerbread house. The gingerbread house stuff is here. I love gingerbread houses because they taste good and are fun to decorate. My mother was nice to get the gingerbread house stuff for my awesome brother and I. My mother, brother and I decorate the gingerbread house together. We put the icing on the gingerbread house. Then we put on gummies, hard candies and tiny little snowflakes. Every year we make a gingerbread house on Christmas Day and then we eat the gingerbread house! Yum! Yum!

By Jennifer Rose Upton 3B

Outside Christmas Lights

Red, green and white. Those are the super sparkly colours I see at night. They sparkle and shine. I think they're beautiful just twinkling there as if they were stars. Blink! Blink! That is the noise the switch makes. It is not very loud. When I turn on the Christmas lights all I can hear is Christmas music. All I can see is my neighbours' Christmas lights shining. I just smile a great big smile. When I look out of the van window and I see lots of Christmas lights, my smile grows to be a great big giant smile. But when I turn them off it is like a story has just ended. Now I better turn on the lights again. Merry Christmas

By Grace Grady Allder 3B

Santa Claus

My description is about Santa Claus and his job. Santa wears a bright red hat and suit. I think he wears glasses and he has a lot of reindeer. Santa delivers perfectly wrapped presents to every kid in the world. That's pretty fast and speedy.

Continued on pg 26

Drawings by students from SBES

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Continued from pg 25

The huge brown reindeer have enormous antlers and one has a very bright red nose. Santa is also the nicest guy to fill up your stocking and give you presents. He flies through the dark night and lands on your roof. Then Santa walks into your house and he fills your stocking up with some candy bars and candy canes. But he only comes on Christmas eve. This year I think Santa will bring me a talking Master Yoda toy. I feel awesome because Santa is coming very soon. Ho! Ho! Ho!

By Braxton Cooper 3B

Candy Cane

Yum! Yum! I can feel the goodness just looking at the minty candy cane. The candy cane is blue and white. At last I was so happy. I could smell the blueberry on the curved candy cane. Finally I got the wrapper off of the minty candy cane. I was holding it and the candy cane slipped into my mouth. It had a blueberry taste. Yum! Yum! I now need to eat my candy cane so there is no more time to talk about candy canes.

By Lilly Casey 3B

Cookies

As I laid in my soft bed I smelled the delicious cookies baking in the oven. Ding! Ding! Oh they're done. I want to try the cookies. Crunch! They taste chocolatey. I love the cookies. The cookies look sparkly and are so pretty too. They smell so good. I wish that I could eat them all but I can't because Santa needs some. I should go to sleep or Santa will not come to our house and we will not get pretty presents. So I went to sleep. I woke up to the glories morning. The Christmas cookies were still there beside my tree. I was like WHAT? NOOOO! I wanted Santa to eat my perfect cookies. Wait a minute. I will try one more night. He might come. The next night I hear jingle bells. Santa was coming. The next morning my cookies are gone. Santa would have thought the cookies were super good and will come again next year for more.

By Faith Deguire Green 3B

Drawings by students from SBES

Present

Oh my gosh! Somebody just put the biggest present I've ever seen under my Christmas tree. It says right on the tag to McLean. Whenever I shake it I hear cling cling ding ding. It has an beautiful green bow on top and has red wrapping paper. The present makes me think about Christmas and opening our presents on Boxing Day. It makes me feel joyful that my family is thinking of me. I can hardly wait for opening day.

By McLean Rowden 3B

Gingerbread House

I decorated my gingerbread house. The gingerbread house was big and has hard candy and vanilla frosting on it. It is my favourite thing about Christmas because it is pretty when decorated. I smelled my gingerbread house and it smelled good and sweet. However it does not taste good anymore because it sat too long and is old. I listen to my house but I couldn't hear anything. This gingerbread house makes me happy in my heart. Merry Christmas everyone!

From Ryerson Harriss 3B

Christmas Stocking

Zzzzzzzzzzzzzzzzzzz! It is Christmas Eve and I am sleeping. I am dreaming about Santa bringing my stocking. In the morning I woke up and I saw my stocking in the living room. It was full!! My stocking is so soft. I have so much candy and chocolate. It looks glimmering, sparkly and beautiful. I look at my stocking and I feel happy, amazing and joyful. My stocking smells like Santa. I can also smell the chocolate from over here. It smells so good. I just want to eat all the candy and chocolate. Some spots of the stocking is hard, some spots are soft and some spots are rough. When my cat Roxy knocks my stocking it sounds like bells ringing. I hope you get what you want in your stocking. Merry Christmas.

From Emily Brown 3B

Tree

Christmas is coming! Get out your Christmas tree. My tree is big. In fact it is enormous. The colour of our family tree is a beautiful green and brown. Sometimes the tree sounds jolly and other times it looks colourful. The tree smells like pine needles. It is really bright when the lights are turned on. In fact it is brighter than lightning. Now the tree looks pretty and it makes me happy. My Christmas tree looks glorious. Once decorated by family tree has millions of ornaments on it. I like my Christmas tree. Have a great Christmas. I hope your tree is as nice as mine.

By Erik Bird

The Awesome Present!

It is Christmas! My 11 year old brother got a NES nintendo entertainment system. My 2 year old sister Libby got a

Continued on pg 27

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

from all of us at Haliburton Timber Mart

Amey Brown
Arlene Scheffee
Ben Germuska
Bill Dovell
Bill Tripp
Bob Stewart
Brad Manning
Brian Breckles
Brianna Elder
Bryan Barry
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Steve Kirkpatrick
Terry Lloyd
Tim Corby
Travis Powers
Tom Burke
Tony Scheffee

HALIBURTON TIMBER MART

We look forward to your continued support!

There's No Place Like Walkers Home hardware For The Holidays

Wishing you a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from Jerry and Dale Walker and the staff at Walkers Home Hardware

Continued from pg 26

kitchen playset. I was looking at the biggest present which was under the tree. I knew it was mine. My heart was beating as fast as drum rolling. My hands were sweating like I jogged for miles. I have always wanted a bean bag chair but I didn't think I would ever get one. Maybe this big present was the bean bag chair that I wanted. I was so excited when mommy told me I could open my big present. The wrapping paper was smooth and had purple polka dots all over it. I ripped off the first tiny bit of paper. I kept on ripping and there I saw the most beautiful thing I have ever seen! An awesome bean bag chair! I jumped up and down in relief. Daddy put the cooshy beans into the chair an I sat on it. James was looking annoyed because he just want to open his next present. Libby was looking confused as she sat in the comfortable love seat waiting. I sat on the most amazing purple bean bag chair. It felt so cushy and was comfortable than my bed. Libby looked like she was going to explode! So to prevent that from happening I let her on my perfect chair for just a minute. My Christmas turned out to be a huge success! I hope yours is too!

By Layla Adams 3B

Gingerbread Men

DING! DING! DING! The homemade gingerbread man is ready. I can't wait to decorate my little crummy buddy. I have jube jubes, gummy bears, icing and much more. I am jumping up and down very fast because I love to decorate cookies, my huge house, gingerbread man and anything. I wonder what I should put on my friend? I know! I am going to put the white icing on him. Mmmmm! My small friend smells so good. It makes me happy when I bake. Now I am going to put the multicoloured jube jubes on my little pal. Oh! Oh! I forgot to tell you what I saw in the black and grey oven. When I looked in that oven all I saw was that pale little treat rising slowly. Back to the decorating. Next I will put the gummy bears on him. YAAAAAAAAAA! My gingerbread man is ready. Now I am going to eat him up. Mmmmmmmm! He is mouthwatering. He is so so so so so good. This is the sad and upsetting part. He's all gone. I'll just have to wait until next Christmas to decorate another gingerbread man.

From Shayla Newhook 3B

Christmas Cookie For Santa

One day I smelled something like a cookie jar filled with delicious cookies. The cookies had chocolate all over them. They were not smooth and there were bumps on the cookies. The cookies were very special and sweet to eat. Instead of the cookie jar filled with cookies for me I will give them to Santa Claus for the presents. Santa ate the cookies on Christmas Eve. Then the cookies were gone. There were nice presents for my family and I. Santa must have like all those cookies. Ho! Ho! Ho!

By Serenity Bradley 3B

Christmas Tree

Trees are fabulous in many different ways. They smell beautiful and give us fresh air. They have beautiful, strong, long thin branches. We put cool sparkly ornaments and glimmering lights on the tree. Soon there will be presents under the tree. I will be so happy to see all the presents. I love trees. Merry Christmas!

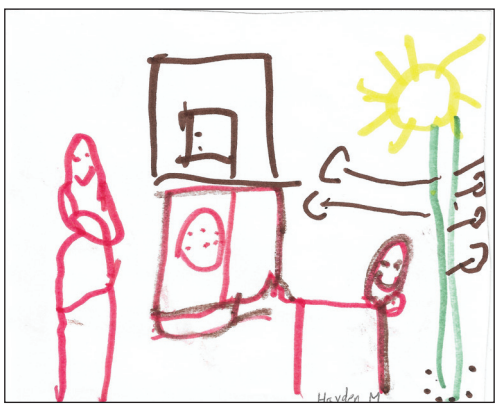
By Jacob Davis 3B

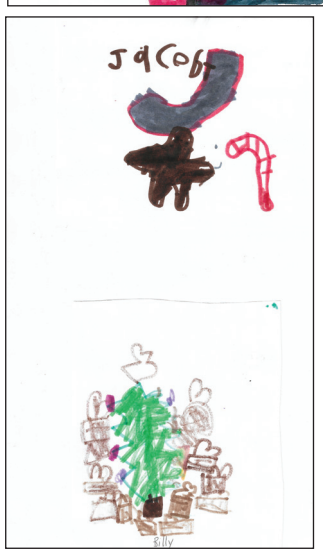
Santa

Ho ho ho! Do you hear Santa? BANG! What was that? Jingle, jangle. I hear a reindeer. I know what Santa looks like. He is fat and jolly. He also wears a red and white suit. He delivers perfectly wrapped presents to everybody in the whole wide world. WOW! That's a ton of people! Santa fills up my green stockings with lots of treats and cool video games. Sometimes he goes in huge parades. Can you imagine what would happen if he quit being Santa? Well please don't because that would be horrific and terrifying. MERRY CHRISTMAS TO YOU ALL AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR!

By Ryan Miller Anderson 3B

Drawings by students from SBES





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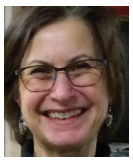
With appreciation



On the White Trail

Marci Mandel

Here we are: full swing into the holiday season in the Haliburton Highlands 2016! Yay!

So far we've had pancakes with Santa, crafted Christmas tree ornaments with elves, decorated sugar cookies with grandchildren and listened to truly inspiring music from remarkable young performers. How lucky we are to live in such a generous and talented community?

There's just so much to appreciate here.

(Ear-to-ear smile!)

There's so much joy to express!

And then…

(Pause…breath…sigh)

…a judgment slips in: "I should have…if only…why didn't I," and the joy of the season hardens into a rock that sits in the pit of my stomach souring everything else that is good and wonderful.

Or not!

The older I get the more I realize how much control I have over my thoughts and feelings. As the days get darker and the news get bleaker, it's so easy to slip away from appreciation. But, honestly, isn't this the greatest gift there is? To give appreciation. To receive appreciation. And to start with ourselves.

Recently I saw a post on Facebook from my granddaughter that grabbed my heart: "needing a lil inspiration today" with the meme "Practice knowing that you're worthy until it becomes your entire truth, being, and mantra. – Alex Elle"

We've learned from an early age how to give appreciation: to look into someone's eyes and say thank you, or to write a note, or to give a gift, or combinations of the above. But have we really learned how to receive appreciation? When we hold a door open for someone, do the words of thanks flow into our hearts or do they get stuck in our ears? When we look in the mirror with approval, does the judgment have time to melt into a smile, or is the moment quickly skipped over? When we do the laundry, do we take a second to recognize and appreciate how we take care of ourselves and our families, or is it just another chore ticked off the list?

I started practising appreciation in the smallest things, like completing a game of Sudoku – "good job, Marci, amazing how you figured that out!" Then, "good job body, thanks for all you did to get me through the day!" Now everything is appreciated – maybe not in the instant – but eventually, for Nature has taught me, over and over again, to trust the path.

It's almost like there are two operating systems in life – not PC and Mac – but Judgment and Appreciation. (Play along with me here to get the understanding – it

Continued on pg 29

we love the holidays too!
FROM OUR
HOLIDAY HOURS
DEC. 24.....7 AM - 5 PM
DEC. 25.....CLOSED
DEC. 26.....8 AM – 5 PM
DEC. 27-30.....7 AM – 9 PM
DEC 31.....7 AM - 5 PM
JAN. 1.....CLOSED
OWNED & OPERATED BY TODD'S YOUR NEIGHBOURS
independent
YOUR INDEPENDENT GROCER

Continued from pg 28

may be a bit of a stretch.)

Like PC, Judgment is all about logic and function and happens in the head. It's a "Goldilocks" binary world where things are either hard or soft, hot or cold, good or bad, and the desire is for things to be in balance, to be "just right."

Like Mac, Appreciation uses a similar language but it arises within the body from a place rooted in security, passion, and courage. This gives it a different feel – a grace, a warmth, and its desire is for harmony.

People have been elected on the basis they'll provide security, but it is a feeling that starts from within, that is, from within appreciation. We may be alone in the world with nothing to our names, but if we stop and begin by appreciating our breath, synchronicities will click in and start to feed us.

We can reprogram ourselves, change our operating systems, many ways, including by sitting tall, eyes open, body relaxed, and filling ourselves with gratitude, love and blessings for 10 minutes. And if we repeat this meditation a few more times daily, the body becomes more comfortable with this energy quickly.

My experience as a musician has taught me a lot about harmony. When we bring all the instruments together and give each a voice, appreciating what they have to offer and not worrying about trying to be fair, great beauty can arise. The timpani player with 52 bars of rest then a dynamic roll is just as important as the violinist with pages of so many notes they look like chicken scratch.

We're all important. We all fit in to the great symphony of life. We have to trust in each other, trust that each of us is playing the notes on our pages the best we can.

How interesting that on the darkest day we chose to appreciate and celebrate the light of kindness. Both are our essence – the dark and the light. Our anger and our compassion, our greed and our generosity, and our criticisms and our empathy are constantly playing off each other, harmonizing in different modes, different styles – some pleasing, some strange.

None are to be dismissed, all are to be appreciated as expressions of our humanity.

(Ear-to-ear smile!)

May our holiday season be filled with much giving and receiving of appreciation.

Sending warm wishes to you and your family during this

Christmas Season

May your home be blessed with

love and happiness

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Haliburton Highlands Museum

Open Year Round!

Have Yourself A Merry Little Christmas!

"Here we are as in olden days,
Happy golden days of yore.
Faithful friends who are dear
To us gather near to us once more."

Thank you for a fantastic 2016!
Make sure to join us for celebrations of Dysart's Sesquicentennial, starting on January 7th going all through 2017!

66 Museum Road, on the outskirts of Haliburton Village
For more information, please call 705-457-2760
or visit www.haliburtonhighlandsmuseum.com

Wishing our Customers, Friends and Family a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

THE PUMP SHOP

Your Water Specialists

From all of Us at the Pump Shop
Wade, Jane, Jesse & Jacob Woodward,
Staff ... and of course Betty

Poems by Mrs. Coneybeare's class

Gingerbread

My house is filled with
A wonderful cinnamon smell.
I put icing on the gingerbread man.
I put red candies to make his eyes.
I put green candies for his mouth.
I bite into him and eat him.
Good-bye little man. Yum Yum

Piper Porter

I'm a Decoration

I have this Spiky thing on my head.
Of course I'm a decoration.
You know I get hung on a tree.
My colours are red, blue, gold and purple.
I'm proud when I hang on the branches
To make the Christmas Tree glow.

Jackson Guild

Joy

Joy joy joy!
I'm excited as I race down the stairs.
Under my Christmas tree I see bright red, white and
green presents.
I see my favourite Christmas treat a peppermint candy
cane.
Shining in my eyes are the sparkling lights on my tree.
Joy joy joy.

Ryan King

The Christmas Detective

The Christmas detective was sleeping one night,
When he woke up with a terrible fright.
He heard something like a bird but he thought to himself
It could be an elf on the shelf.
He peeked out his door
And saw a red hat on the floor.
100s of presents were under the tree
The detective wondered who could it be?

Owen Whitteker

Magic Reindeer

Clump clump clump, go the reindeer feet.
Reindeer are magic.
They help fly Santa's sleigh
All around the world.
On Christmas EVE reindeer land on top of
My house and help the big jolly guy
Drop off my presents!
There is so much Christmas cheer!

William Grexton

Santa

The old jolly man
Is here again.
He climbed down
The chimney to
Deliver the toys to me.
His suit is red, clean
And fluffy.
Santa's belly is
Jiggling as he tiptoes to
To the Christmas tree.
Out of sack
He pulls out a wrapped gift
For me.
Santa stretches his arms and yawns
Now he can have his
Milk and cookies!

Dana Kehler

Christmas Colour

Every Christmas my family wears
Christmas colours of red, green and white!
Stomp stomp stomp!
I am coming down
The stairs with red, green and white on!
Stomp stomp stomp.

Sydney Steffenson

Christmas Tree

Swish swish swish!
We decorate the tree with
Ornaments, candy canes, bells and angels.
We string the tree with
Coloured lights so it sparkles.
We hang our old special ornaments from last year's Christmas
The tree stands really tall.
We put the gold star on top.
Merry Christmas Everyone.

Paige Brosseau

Continued on pg 31

Wishing our Loyal Customers, Friends and Family
a Magical Holiday Season.
Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from
Derek, Sharon, Nick and Sam Rowden
Staff and Families of D&K Masonry and
Touch of Class Day Spa and Salon
D&K Masonry
CONCRETE SLABS | BLOCK & ICF FOUNDATIONS | FOOTINGS
Touch of Class
DAY SPA & SALON
FULL SERVICE AESTHETICS AND HAIR SALON

Continued from pg 30

The Christmas Star

Twinkle, twinkle, twinkle!
I'm sitting on the floor and staring
at the Christmas tree.
Looking at the decorations
on my tree.
I am peacefully looking at my tree.
My heart is filled with joy and love.
Twinkle, twinkle, twinkle!

Ava Code

Christmas Tree

I'm crouched in my front of my Christmas tree.
My house smells like fresh pine needles.
I see bright twinkling lights.
Shiny bulbs and tasty candy canes hang from the branches.
My heart is filled with love and joy.

Chloe Paradie

An Elf on the Shelf

Somebody sneaks into your house at night.
He is dressed in
He's about the size of a banana.
He finds a place to sit and watch.
When morning comes the kids find him but they don't touch him
Or he will lose his magic.
This elf is an important part of Christmas because you might not get Christmas without him.

Jaylynn Bull

Santa

Santa is jolly.
He has a long white Beard.
He has a shiny black belt.
A puffy white pom pom hangs from his cap.
He wears a fluffy warm suit.
Ho ho ho there he goes.

Layne Robinson

Two Turtledoves

A turtledove reminds me of Christmas,
You might see turtledoves on my tree.
When you buy two turtledoves and give one to a Friend.
You will
Be best friends forever.
A turtledove is a symbol
of Love.

Tory Byrnes

Magic Reindeer

Eight reindeer prancing in the snow.
Snort, snort, snort they are so hyped.
They pull the sleigh on to the roof.
It lands with a loud thump.
Santa vanishes down the chimney
with his big red sack.
The reindeer eagerly wait for a treat like carrots.

Madelyn Walker and Devon Porter

Elf

Busy busy busy!
Elves build presents.
Elves wrap toys.
Elves paint trains.
Elves sing Rudolph the
Rednosed Reindeer.
Elves write list of
bad and good kids.
Busy busy busy!

Lillianna Hie

When I close my Eyes

My gingerbread house is dark brown and spicy.
When I bite into it it tastes like
Ginger and maybe a hint of cinnamon.
The roof is made out of sweet icing and candy balls.
When I close my eyes I picture it
As my own house!

Anastasia Mongrain

Elves

Elves are whacking wack wack wack!
They are building doll houses.
Elves are sewing klick buzz buzz!
They are sewing teddy bears.
Elves are sweeping.
Woosh woosh woosh!
Elves are laughing.
Ha Ha Ha Ha Ha Ha

Parker Simms

My Star

My heart is filled with joy.
My star is shiny when I stare at it.
My star reminds me of Christmas
My star is a memory of my family.
My heart is filled with joy.

Carson Jones

Who Writes The Naughty And Nice List?

An elf is small so
It can spy to know
If you're naughty or nice!
It can go through Tiny spaces to
Spy on you!
I better be nice
So I don't end up on the
Naughty side of the list.
I should do the dishes.
I should listen to the teacher.
I should stop bugging my sister.
I bet I'm going to the nice side
of the list, I hope!

Armaan Jawanda

The road to Christmas

By Sharon Lynch

It started to rain before Sue had even got out of the city. Big heavy globules of wet smashing against her windshield like insults. She cursed aloud. Well that's typical, she thought, peering through the smeary windshield. Typically crummy weather for a typically boring drive to an equally crummy and boring family Christmas get together.

Every year her brothers and spouses squeezed into the old cottage for the obligatory Christmas gathering the weekend before Dec. 25. Presents were exchanged and plenty of rum and eggnog consumed. Sue, now on her own since the divorce, drove up from the city and went through the merry-making motions. What she really wanted to do was stay home with a good book and a bottle of wine.

The highway traffic had started to thin as she made her way north. It was already dark. She figured she'd arrive at the cottage about 7:30 and hoped the place would be warm enough. The old building leaked heat like a fisherman's net and walking on the floor in sock feet was akin to strolling across the frozen lake. But the wood stove did a pretty good job once it had been fired up for a few hours.

The rain had turned to snow, wet sticky stuff that her wipers kept pushing aside. Occasionally Christmas lights sparkled from a distant house but mostly it was dark, except for the slanting white caught in her headlights. She sighed. This weather was going to delay her arrival time.

Then it was time to turn onto the smaller, two lane highway. I wish I was home with Margaret Atwood and my merlot, Sue thought again as she began steering around the curving, snow-covered hills. It was like she had travelled to another climate. Cottage country bore no resemblance to the city in the winter. Thank goodness she had packed her boots and warmer clothing.

She hadn't seen another vehicle now for about 10 minutes and it felt as though she was alone in this world of black and white. The snow was pulling at her tires when she went into a curve. Time to get new snow tires, she thought. Next week for sure, no more procrastinating.

Out of nowhere a doe jumped onto the highway ahead of Sue, its form erupting into her headlights like a shock. Without thinking she hit the breaks. The car veered to the left and started spinning in the middle of the road. The falling snow, the dense black of forest all merged into a blur as she sat frozen with terror. She knew enough to take her foot off the brake but the car continued to move as thoughts raced and tumbled through her mind.

What if another car comes right now – from either direction? What if she slid off into the deep ditch she knew was there even though she couldn't see it? Would she die here and now, in the middle of nowhere? Would anyone really care if she did? Why had she not bought those new snow tires?

But no other vehicles came and her car finally came to a stop in the middle of the road.

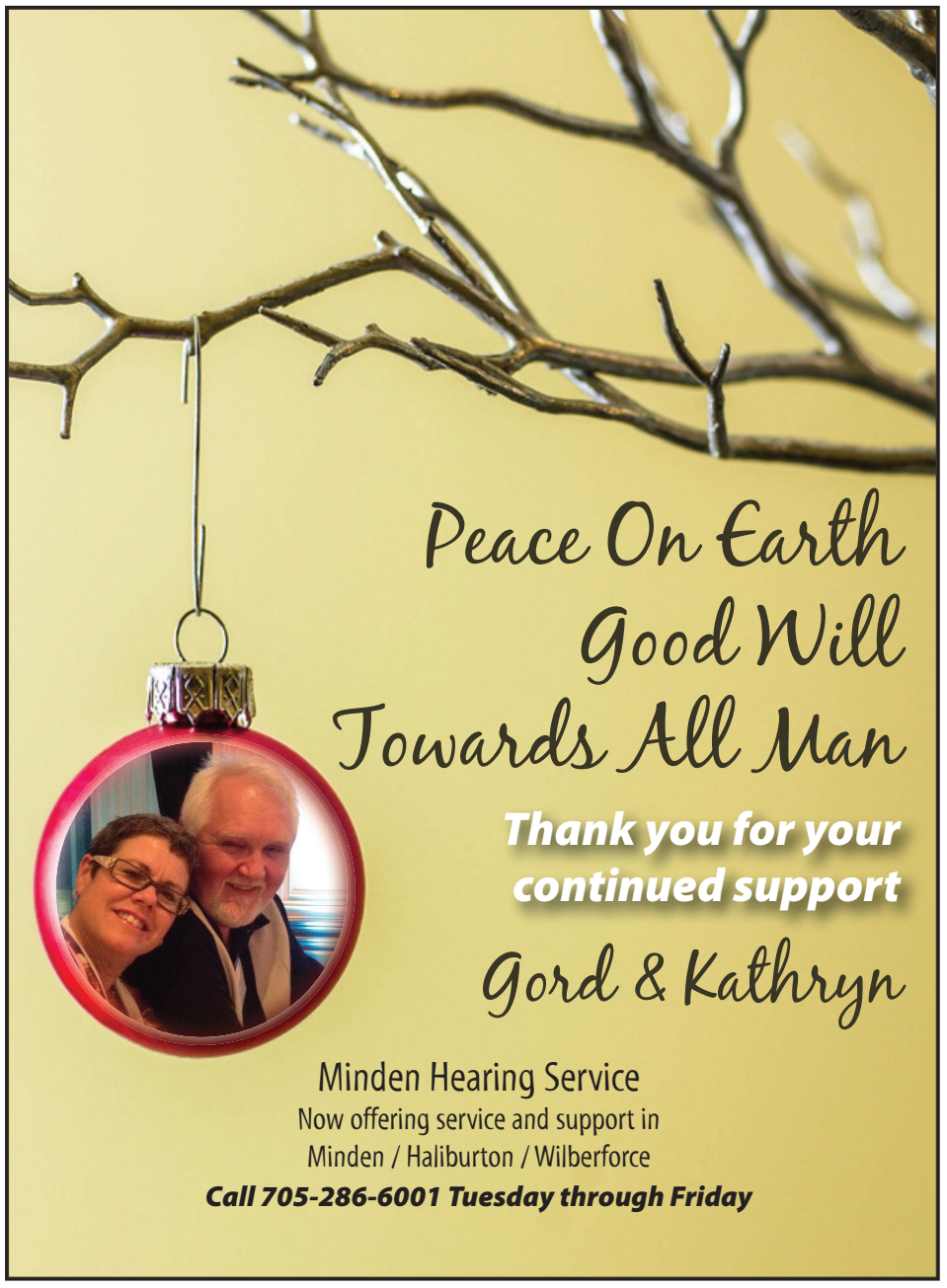
Her heart rate slowed, she exhaled the breath she hadn't realized she had been holding and she knew she had to get over to the side of the road before someone did come along and rammed into her. Loosening her iron grip on the steering wheel, she carefully touched the gas and pulled onto the shoulder.

Shaking with nerves, Sue put her head down onto the wheel and took a few slow, deep breaths. All she could think of was that she hadn't died, in fact hadn't even been hurt. She was surrounded by the soft darkness of the winter night.

Now the old cottage packed with family no longer seemed a chore to be tolerated but a safe haven of warmth and companionship. It's amazing, thought Sue, how a brush with death can change a person's perspective. She felt light and lucky and anticipatory. Also cautious as she pulled back onto the small highway.

For the rest of the journey she drove at a slower pace, not at all concerned with her arrival time. Instead she concentrated on the road and hoped no more critters would make a sudden appearance.

It was only when she reached the cottage driveway that Sue was able to relax and lean back in her seat. Someone had strung blue lights around the old door and stuck pine branches in the ridge of snow pushed up by the snow plow. Shadowy figures moved behind the kitchen window and smoke poured from the chimney. The scene would have made a great Christmas card, thought Sue as she got out of the car. She was really looking forward to that eggnog.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Call 705-286-6001 Tuesday through Friday

21st Annual Christmas Challenge
Join the Haliburton County Home Builders' Association and help us to make a difference!
As the Christmas party season commences, The Haliburton County Home Builders would like to encourage you to include its Christmas Challenge in your plans. Large or small, each gift will help fill the Christmas hampers distributed by the Food Banks in Haliburton County. This is the 21st anniversary of the Christmas Challenge. Whether this is the first year you have taken the challenge or the 21st year all gifts are needed. If you aren't sure what to collect simply gather local gift certificates. A value of $15.00 each make is easy to top up gifts for families who have teenagers.
Step 1: Call 705-457-6901 in advance to arrange a date to pick up your gifts
Step 2: Collect unwrapped toys or food items at your office or your Christmas Party.
Remember to make the most of the Challenge have your gifts ready for pick up BEFORE December 16th. Early delivery to the workshops means the elves have enough time to prepare for Christmas.
Haliburton County Home Builders Association
Call 705-457-6901 and book a time for your gift pick up then start collecting.

Deck the halls and other poorly communicated Christmas traditions

Living Large

Humour by Steve Galea

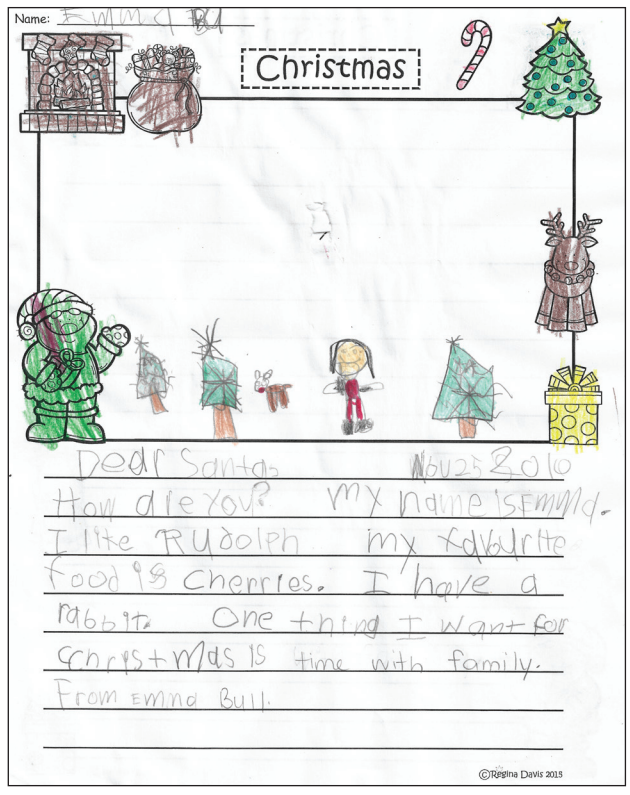
Look, I think by now we can all agree with the credit card companies – Christmas is great. It's great to see loved ones, give and receive gifts and eat all that great seasonal food. It's nice to be happy and spread good cheer.

But between you and me, I'm starting to get a little suspicious of some standard Christmas advice.

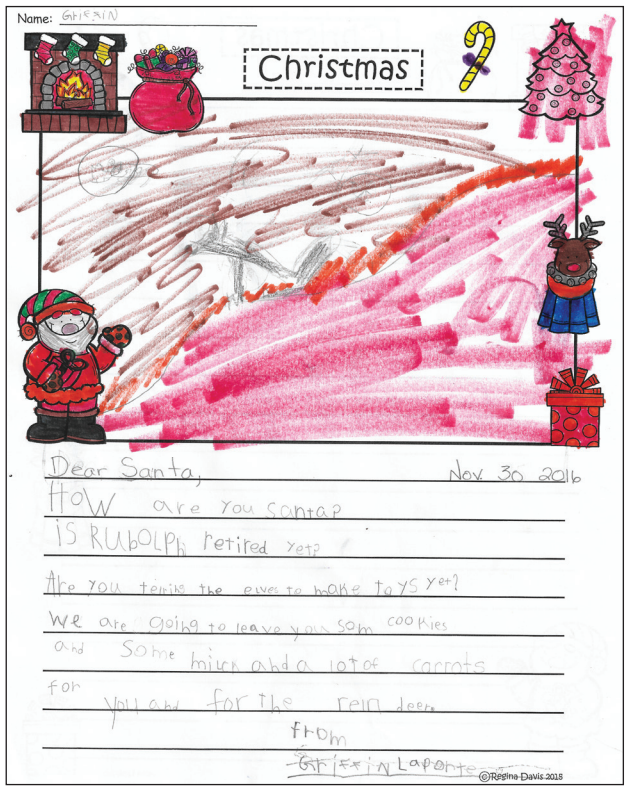
Here are a few examples of that:

1. Deck the halls. This is all the prompting a do-it yourself handyman with tools and a pile of cedar two-by-sixes needs to surprise his family with an outdoorsy makeover of the hall. Trust me, they don't appreciate it. The barbecue gets in the way.
2. The request to "Bring us some figgy pudding." No one wants figgy pudding. No one even knows what it is.
3. Asking what child is this in a Christmas carol? It's been 2017 years. Do we still have to ask?
4. Advising people that it's fun to ride in a one-horse open sleigh. This is not always true. Honestly, this depends a) on the weather and b) on the horse's level of flatulence.
5. Leaving cookies and milk for Santa. I know they go missing by Christmas morning. But, between you and me, in my house at least, our dogs look awful guilty.
6. Mistletoe: To me this sounds like something you ought to see a podiatrist for. Why don't we call it what it is – an inappropriate botanical excuse to kiss someone who would rather avoid it.
7. Boxing Day. I never make it to round 10 so I stay home.
8. Christmas cake. Do you see what we've done here? We've placed an unfair stereotype on one of the finest foods ever. As a result, we only get to eat it once a year.
9. Eggnog. I have a hard time drinking something if I'm unsure what the major ingredient is. Can anyone tell me what a nog is?
10. The idea that it's good to dream of a white Christmas. Clearly, this is something that snow shovel manufacturers have been pushing.

Artwork and stories by students in Ms. Randles's class



Name:
Christmas
Dear Santa
How are you? My name is
Jacob I like snowboarding. My
favourite food is pizza. My
favourite thing is a truck. Is
the north pole cold? I have
a dog. One thing I want for
Christmas is a minecraft stuffy
©Regina Davis 2015


Name:
Christmas
Dear Santa,
How are you santa?
IS RUDOLPH retired yet?
Are you teaching the elves to make toys yet?
We are going to leave you some cookies
and some hay and a lot of carrots
for you and for the rein deer
from
©Regina Davis 2015

Free Holiday
Public Skating
Haliburton Arena
Wednesday January 4th
11:00 am to 12:30 pm
Minden Arena
Friday December 30th
12:00 pm to 2:00 pm
Compliments of
Karen Nimigon
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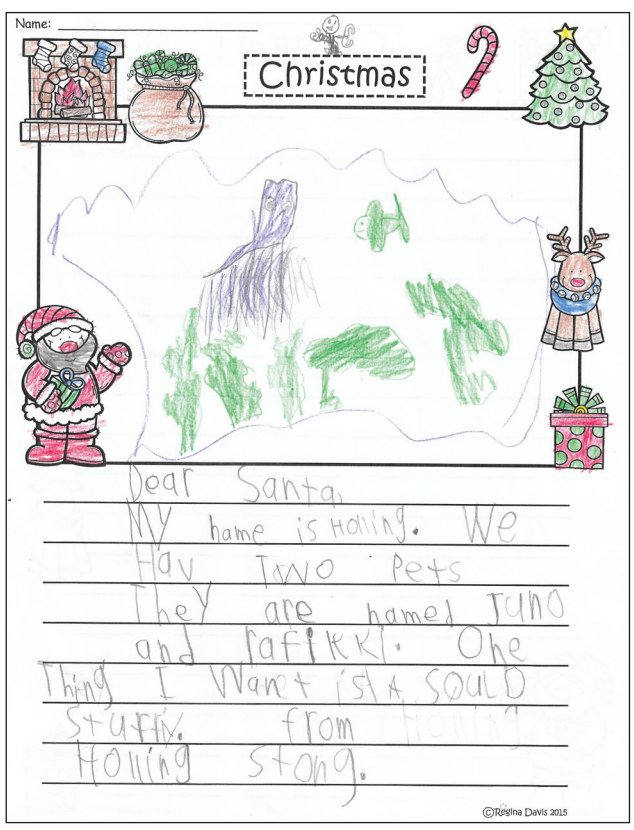
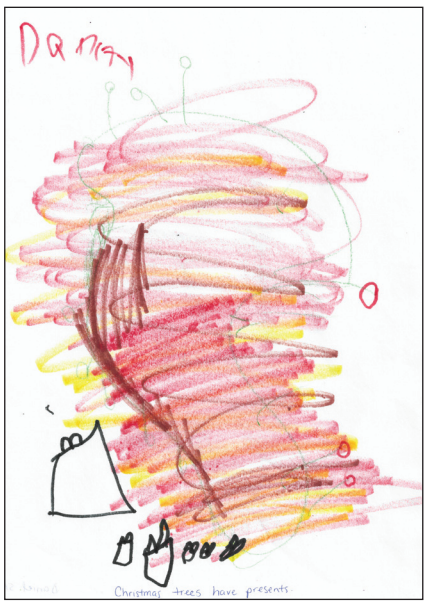
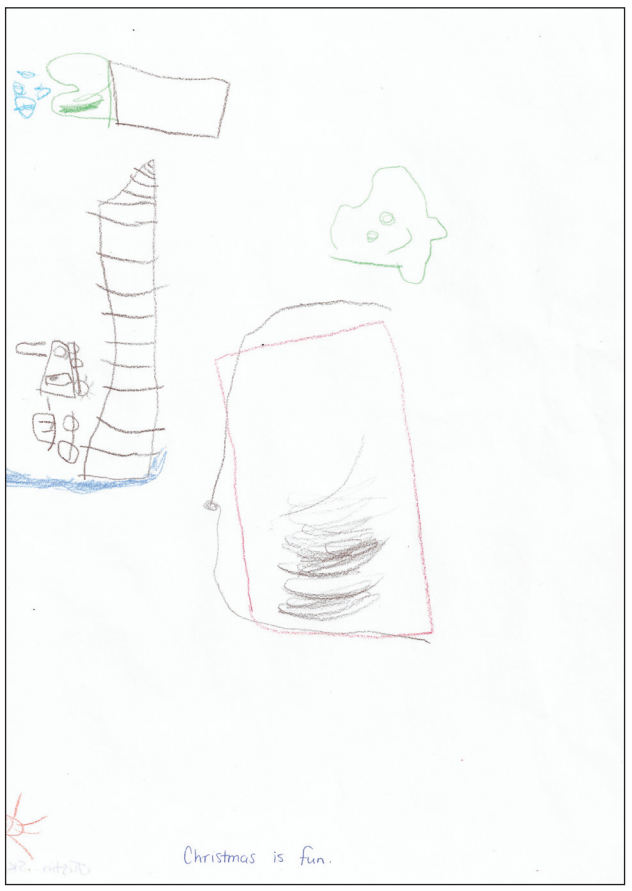


Holiday artwork by Ms. Mulcaster's SK/1 class from Archie Stouffer Elementary School





"Behold, the Lamb of God."
John 1:29

May the light of love and joy shine on you and your family throughout the year. God bless you.

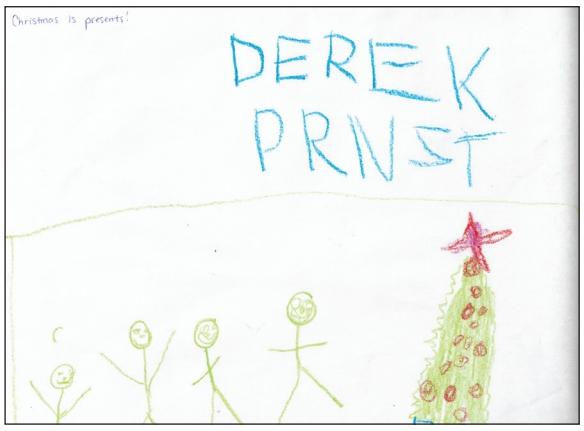
HALIBURTON VETERINARY SERVICES
Dr. Laurie Brown & Staff

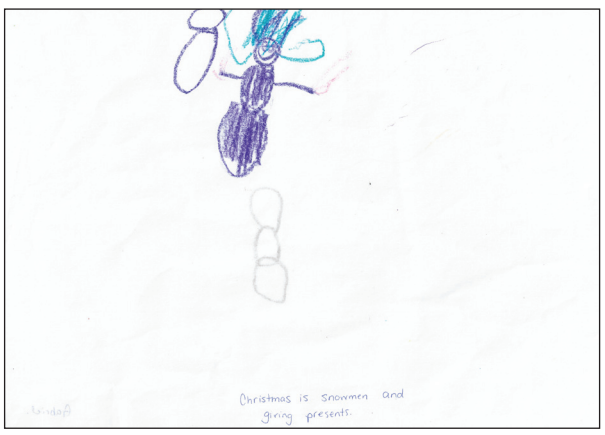
Seasons Greetings
& Best Wishes in the New Year from the staff and families of
MISCIO CONSTRUCTION

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year
from Norm, Adele & family
The Grooming Studio
Norm Barry Cottage Check & Hot Tub Maintenance
705-754-1078 • Cell 705-457-0153
info@normbarry.com www.normbarry.com
Relax... let me do the work.

Christmas Hours
Haliburton Family Medical Centre
7217 Gelert Rd. (beside Haliburton Hospital)
December 23 - 8:30 a.m. - 12 p.m.
December 26 - CLOSED
December 27 - CLOSED
January 2 - CLOSED
Doctors and Staff would like to wish you a very happy and safe holiday season

Artwork by students from ASES





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Merry Christmas & Happy New Year

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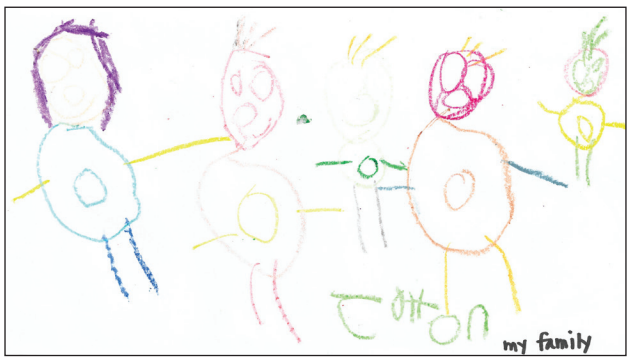
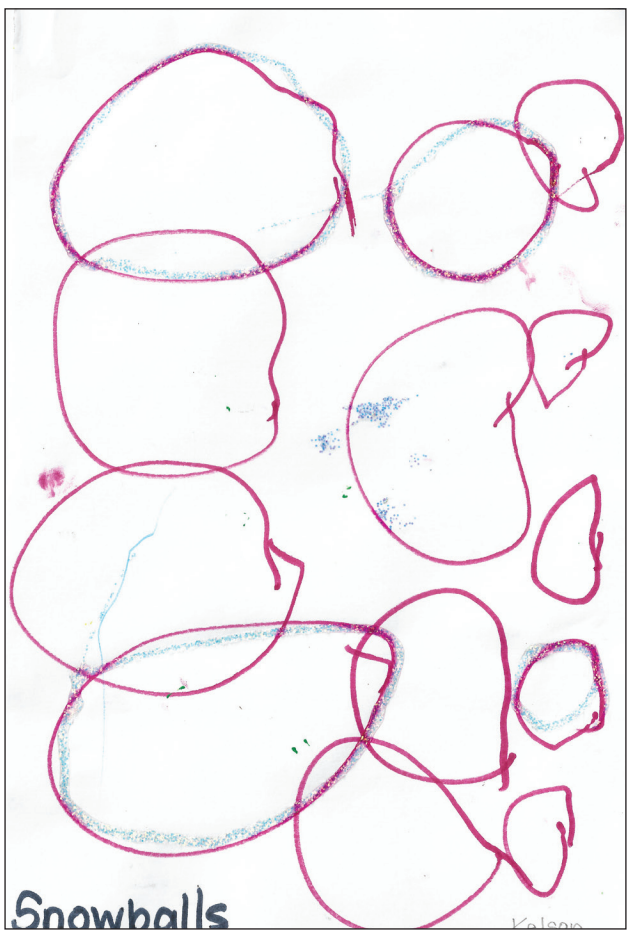
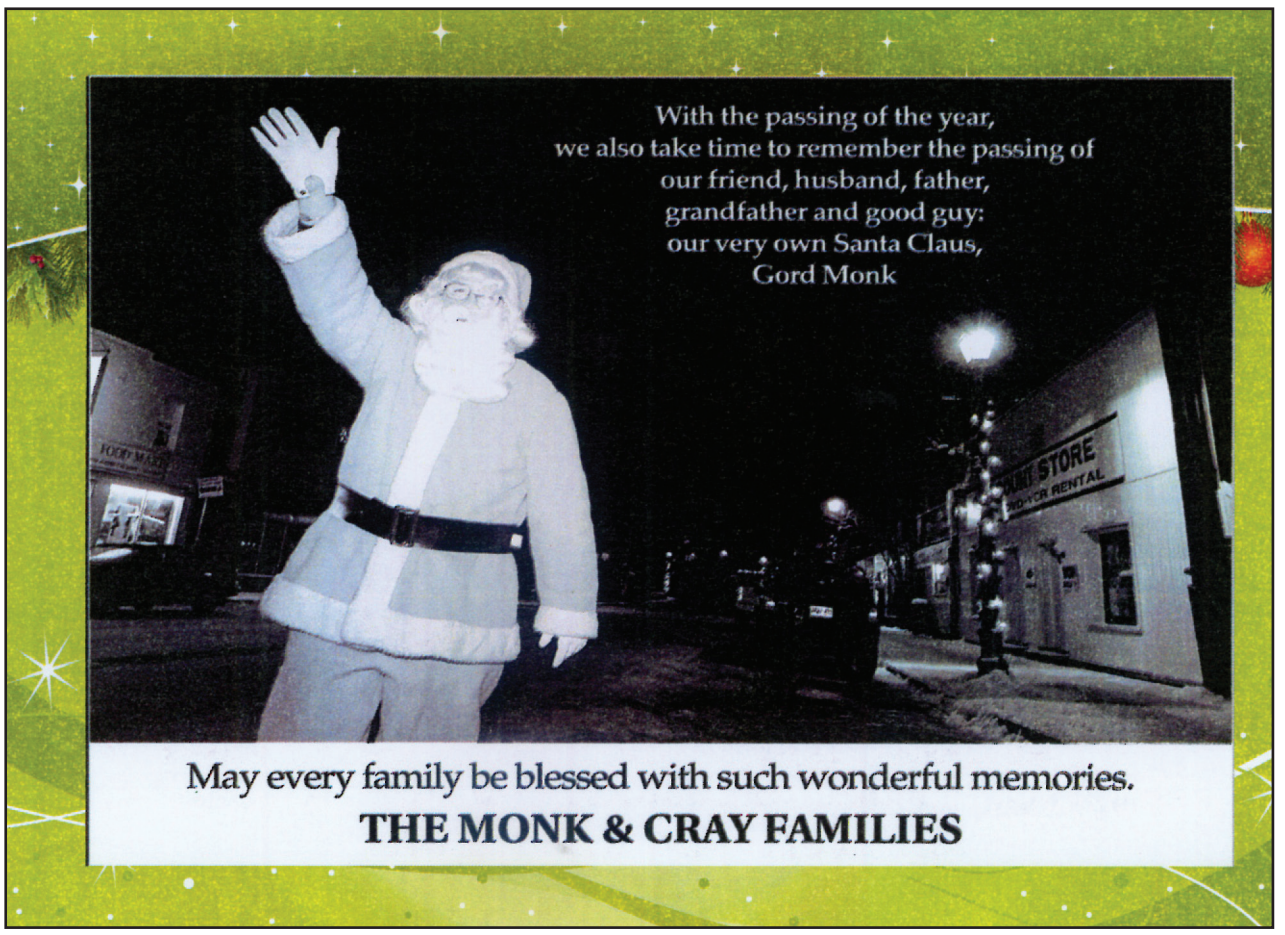
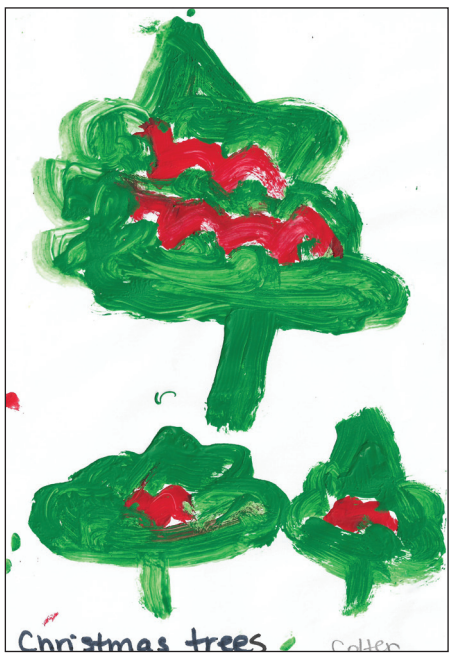
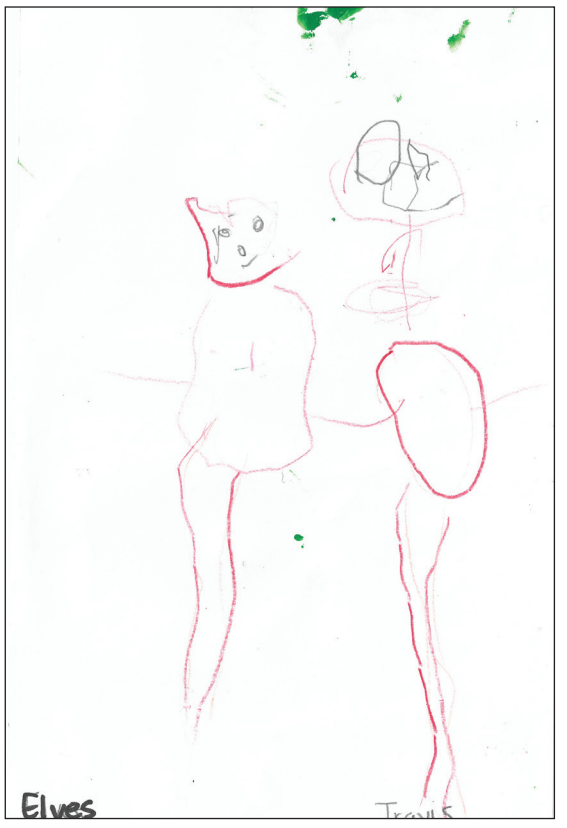
Christmas drawings by the Little/Hewitt class from ASES






With the passing of the year,
we also take time to remember the passing of
our friend, husband, father,
grandfather and good guy:
our very own Santa Claus,
Gord Monk
May every family be blessed with such wonderful memories.
THE MONK & CRAY FAMILIES





Drawings by ASES students

Benjamin Moore PAINTS
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A Christmas prayer from Auntie Fester

Maybelle's Fireside stories

Why, just the other night, my beloved Auntie Fester came to me in a dream. There she was, all four feet 10 inches of her, standing at the foot of my bed wearing a long white nighty and a bright red Santa hat that flickered on and off like lights on a landing field, don'tcha know.

"Auntie Fester!" I shouted. "Is that you?"

"Well, it ain't Tom Cruise! Course it's me, Maybelle," she said. "Now get over here and give your 'ol Auntie Fester a hug!"

An easy order, I flew to her in a nanosecond and hugged her like there was no tomorrow. You see, ever since I was a little girl, my Auntie Fester was magical in my eyes, especially around Christmas time. Why everything good seemed gooder (oh, I know there's no such word, but in this case, there ought to be). Everything bright seemed brighter. Why that 'ol gal WAS the spirit of Christmas.

She was the first person in Lake WhaddaythinkImean to put up her twinkle lights … the first to bake fruit cakes with enough rum to buckle a sailor … knit mittens and stocking-slippers for anybody and everybody she knew who needed them. Why she even hand-painted her own Christmas cards and finished them off with red, green, and silver glitter. And you think it stopped there?

Why Auntie Fester even dressed up as a living breathing Christmas tree. And I, little Maybelle, thought she was the most amazing human in the whole universe of Lake WhaddyathinkImean. My little friends, on the other hand, were horrified and ran home screaming.

I could feel myself smiling in my sleep. Oh, please dream, I said to myself, let me stay with her awhile. That's when Auntie Fester snapped her fingers and a whole gaggle of gingerbread men danced across the floor. Why, if they weren't doing Michael Jackson moves and tap dance steps that had the *Dancing with the Stars* judges hold up a 10.

Snap! Her fingers went again and ffffffft! the bedroom walls disappeared and we were all on a float in the Lake W Santa Claus parade. Beanpole Starkman was Santa, Vilma Yuccch was a rabbit (go figure) … and Officer Stanley Penelope McBottom, all six feet four inches of him, was an elf.

Then, before you could say: What in the world did 'ol Maybelle eat before she went to bed that night? – big red velvet pouches appeared and we all grabbed candy canes from them and tossed them to the kiddies who were bundled up curbside, waving at us as we floated by.

Then a lone star burst in the night sky, breaking into hundreds of smaller stars – flickering, cascading like a warm rain of diamonds compelling us into a state of wonder, stuck in time, squinting in the light, as he appeared bigger than life … the one … the only … Michelin Man.

That's when I woke up.

Talk about feeling discombobulated! But a happy discombobulation, don'tcha know. I got to see my treasured Auntie Fester again and be in her "light." I think that's what my dream was about, really. Like so many of us around the world, I was having trouble shaking off what I call, Trumpitis. And I needn't go into that now.

What 'ol Maybelle needed was to be reunited with the joy and love in my heart and mind … and there was no one better to inspire that connection than my darling Auntie F.

By the way, when Auntie Fester left this world, she left 'ol Maybelle with a love for Christmas and a ritual she practised every year. For the whole month of December, she would say the same prayer every night: "Dear world and everybody in it … I wish you joy. I wish you love and understanding. I wish you compassion and deep caring for Mother Earth and for each other. I also wish you a good hearty sense of humour, because, boy oh boy, are you going to need it. So, listen up and listen hard: Lighten up, will ya!"

Merry Christmas dear readers, and a very happy and healthy 2017!

Maybelle's Fireside Stories is written by Jerelyn Craden. Jerelyn's novel, Vessie Flamingo Outshining the Moon, is available at amazon.com

Season's Greetings

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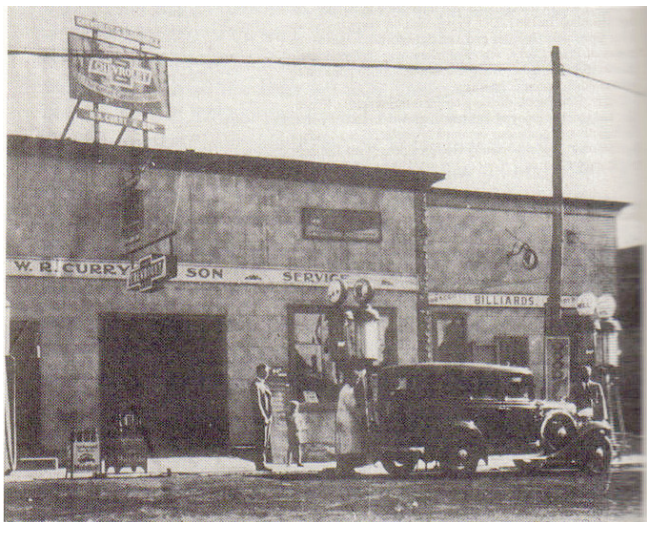
In loving memory of Lynn Troke



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